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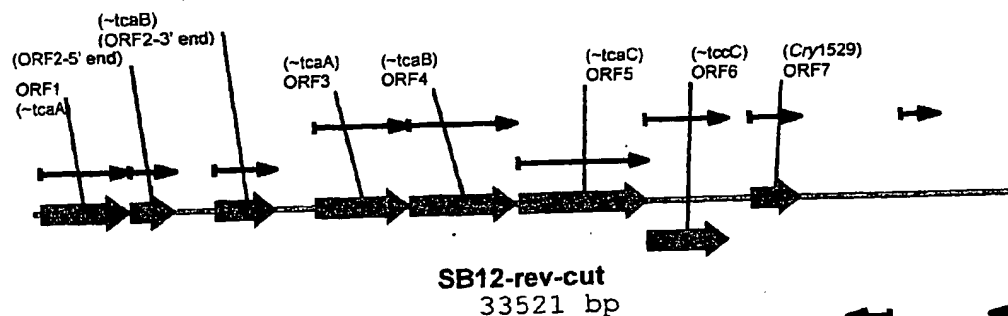
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(54) Title: PESTICIDALLY ACTIVE PROTEINS AND POLYNUCLEOTIDES OBTAINABLE FROM PAENIBACILLUS SPECIES



(57) Abstract: The subject invention provides unique biological alternatives for pest control. More specifically, the present invention relates to novel pesticidal proteins, novel sources of pesticidal proteins, polynucleotides that encode such toxins, and to methods of using these toxins to control insects and other plant pests. The subject invention relates to the surprising discovery that *Paenibacillus* species, and proteins therefrom, have toxicity to lepidopterans. There have been no known reports of a *Paenibacillus* species, strain, species, and proteins therefrom, have toxicity to lepidopterans. This is also the first known example of a *Paenibacillus* Cry protein that is toxic to lepidopterans. Furthermore, this is the first known report of *Paenibacillus* having toxin complex (TC)-like proteins. The DAS1529 isolate disclosed here is also the first known example of a natural bacterium that produces both a Cry toxin and TC proteins. The subject invention also relates to new classes of Cry and TC proteins that are pesticidally active.

DESCRIPTION

PESTICIDALLY ACTIVE PROTEINS AND POLYNUCLEOTIDES OBTAINABLE FROM *PAENIBACILLUS* SPECIES

Cross-Reference to Related Applications

[0001] This application claims priority to provisional application Serial No. 60/392,633, filed June 28, 2002, and to provisional application Serial No. 60/441,647, filed January 21, 2003.

Background of the Invention

[0002] Insects and other pests cost farmers billions of dollars annually in crop losses and in the expense of keeping these pests under control. The losses caused by insect pests in agricultural production environments include decreases in crop yield, reduced crop quality, and increased harvesting costs. Insect pests are also a burden to vegetable and fruit growers, to producers of ornamental flowers, and to home gardeners and homeowners.

[0003] Cultivation methods, such as crop rotation and the application of high levels of nitrogen fertilizers, have partially addressed problems caused by agricultural pests. However, economic demands on the utilization of farmland restrict the use of crop rotation. In addition, overwintering traits of some insects are disrupting crop rotations in some areas.

[0004] Thus, synthetic chemical insecticides are relied upon most heavily to achieve a sufficient level of control. However, the use of synthetic chemical insecticides can have several drawbacks. For example, the use of some of these chemicals can adversely affect many beneficial insects. Target insects have also developed resistance to some chemical pesticides. This has been partially alleviated by various resistance management strategies, but there is an increasing need for alternative pest control agents. Furthermore, very high populations of larvae, heavy rains, and improper calibration of insecticide application equipment can result in poor control. The improper use of insecticides raises environmental concerns such as contamination of soil and of both surface and underground water supplies. Residues can also remain on treated fruits, vegetables, and on other treated plants. Working with some insecticides can also pose hazards to the persons applying them. Therefore, synthetic chemical pesticides are being increasingly scrutinized for their potential toxic environmental consequences. Stringent new restrictions on

the use of pesticides and the elimination of some effective pesticides from the market place could limit economical and effective options for controlling damaging and costly pests.

[0005] Because of the problems associated with the use of synthetic chemical pesticides, there exists a clear need to limit the use of these agents and a need to identify alternative control agents. The replacement of synthetic chemical pesticides, or combination of these agents with biological pesticides, could reduce the levels of toxic chemicals in the environment.

[0006] Some biological pesticidal agents that are now being used with some success are derived from the soil microbe *Bacillus thuringiensis* (*B.t.*). The soil microbe *Bacillus thuringiensis* (*B.t.*) is a Gram-positive, spore-forming bacterium. Most strains of *B.t.* do not exhibit pesticidal activity. Some *B.t.* strains produce, and can be characterized by, parasporal crystalline protein inclusions. These inclusions often appear microscopically as distinctively shaped crystals. Some *B.t.* proteins are highly toxic to pests, such as insects, and are specific in their toxic activity. Certain insecticidal *B.t.* proteins are associated with the inclusions. These "δ-endotoxins" are different from exotoxins, which have a non-specific host range. Other species of *Bacillus* also produce pesticidal proteins.

[0007] Certain *Bacillus* toxin genes have been isolated and sequenced, and recombinant DNA-based products have been produced and approved for use. In addition, with the use of genetic engineering techniques, various approaches for delivering these toxins to agricultural environments are being perfected. These include the use of plants genetically engineered with toxin genes for insect resistance and the use of stabilized intact microbial cells as toxin delivery vehicles. Thus, isolated *Bacillus* toxin genes are becoming commercially valuable.

[0008] Commercial use of *B.t.* pesticides was initially restricted to targeting a narrow range of lepidopteran (caterpillar) pests. Preparations of the spores and crystals of *B. thuringiensis* subsp. *kurstaki* have been used for many years as commercial insecticides for lepidopteran pests. For example, *B. thuringiensis* var. *kurstaki* HD-1 produces a crystalline δ-endotoxin which is toxic to the larvae of a number of lepidopteran insects.

[0009] More recently, new subspecies of *B.t.* have been identified, and genes responsible for active δ-endotoxin proteins have been isolated. Höfte and Whiteley classified *B.t.* crystal protein genes into four major classes (Höfte, H., H.R. Whiteley [1989] *Microbiological Reviews* 52(2):242-255). The classes were *CryI* (Lepidoptera-specific), *CryII* (Lepidoptera- and Diptera-specific), *CryIII* (Coleoptera-specific), and *CryIV* (Diptera-specific). The discovery of strains

specifically toxic to other pests has been reported. For example, *CryV* and *CryVI* were proposed to designate a class of toxin genes that are nematode-specific.

[0010] The Lepidopteran-specific *CryI* crystal proteins, in their natural state, are approximately 130- to 140-kDa proteins, which accumulate in bipyramidal crystalline inclusions during the sporulation of *B. thuringiensis*. These proteins are protoxins which solubilize in the alkaline environment of the insect midgut and are proteolytically converted by crystal-associated or larval-midgut proteases into a toxic core fragment of 60 to 70 kDa. This activation can also be carried out *in vitro* with a variety of proteases. The toxic domain is localized in the N-terminal half of the protoxin. This was demonstrated for *CryIA(b)* and *CryIC* proteins through N-terminal amino acid sequencing of the trypsin-activated toxin. Höfte *et al.* 1989. Cleavage occurs on the C-terminal end of a conserved region called "Block 5," thus forming the C-terminus of the core toxin. A short, N-terminal protoxin segment can also be processed off. The N-terminal cleavage site is also highly conserved for *CryIA* and *CryID* proteins, suggesting that for these proteins, the N terminus of the toxic fragment is localized at the same position. *CryIB*, however, is different from the other *CryI* proteins in this region. It was not known whether this protein is also processed at the N terminus. Höfte *et al.* 1989.

[0011] Deletion analysis of several *cryI* genes further confirmed that the 3' half of the protoxin is not required for toxic activity. One of the shortest reported toxic fragments was localized between codons 29 and 607 for *CryIAb*. Further removal of four codons from the 3' end or eight codons from the 5' end completely abolished the toxic activity of the gene product. Similar observations were made for the *cryIA(a)* and *cryIA(c)* genes. Höfte *et al.* 1989.

[0012] The *cryII* genes encode 65-kDa proteins which form cuboidal inclusions in strains of several subspecies. These crystal proteins were previously designated "P2" proteins, as opposed to the 130-kDa P1 crystal proteins present in the same strains. Höfte *et al.* 1989.

[0013] A *cryIIA* gene was cloned from *B. thuringiensis* subsp. *kurstaki* HD-263 and expressed in *Bacillus megaterium*. Cells producing the *CryIIA* protein were toxic for the lepidopteran species *Heliothis virescens* and *Lymantria dispar* as well as for larvae of the dipteran *Aedes aegypti*. Widner and Whitely (1989, *J. Bacteriol.* 171:965-974) cloned two related genes (*cryIIA* and *cryIIB*) from *B. thuringiensis* subsp. *kurstaki* HD-1. Both genes encode proteins of 633 amino acids with a predicted molecular mass of 71 kDa (slightly larger than the apparent molecular mass determined for the P2 proteins produced in *B. thuringiensis*). Although the *CryIIA* and

CryIIB proteins are highly homologous (~87% amino acid identity), they differ in their insecticidal spectra. *CryIIA* is active against both a lepidopteran (*Manduca sexta*) and a dipteran (*Aedes aegypti*) species, whereas *cryIIB* is toxic only to the lepidopteran insect. Höfte *et al.* 1989. The *CryII* toxins, as a group, tend to be relatively more conserved at the sequence level (>80% identical) than other groups. In contrast, there are many *CryI* toxins, for example, including some that are less than 60% identical.

[0014] The 1989 nomenclature and classification scheme of Höfte and Whiteley for crystal proteins was based on both the deduced amino acid sequence and the host range of the toxin. That system was adapted to cover 14 different types of toxin genes which were divided into five major classes. The 1989 nomenclature scheme became unworkable as more and more genes were discovered that encoded proteins with varying spectrums of pesticidal activity. Thus, a revised nomenclature scheme was adopted, which is based solely on amino acid identity (Crickmore *et al.*, 1998, *Microbiology and Molecular Biology Reviews* 62:807-813). The mnemonic "*cry*" has been retained for all of the toxin genes except *cytA* and *cytB*, which remain a separate class. Roman numerals have been exchanged for Arabic numerals in the primary rank, and the parentheses in the tertiary rank have been removed. Many of the original names have been retained, with the noted exceptions, although a number have been reclassified. There are now at least 37 primary classes of *Cry* proteins, and two primary classes of *cyt* toxins. Other types of toxins, such as those of WO 98/18932 and WO 97/40162, have also been discovered from *B. thuringiensis*.

[0015] There are some obstacles to the successful agricultural use of *Bacillus* (and other biological) pesticidal proteins. Certain insects can be refractory to the effects of *Bacillus* toxins. Insects such as boll weevils, black cutworm, and *Helicoverpa zea*, as well as adult insects of most species, heretofore have demonstrated no significant sensitivity to many *B.t.* δ -endotoxins.

[0016] Another potential obstacle is the development of resistance to *B.t.* toxins by insects. *B.t.* protein toxins were initially formulated as sprayable insect control agents. A more recent application of *B.t.* technology has been to isolate and transform plants with genes that encode these toxins. Transgenic plants subsequently produce the toxins, thereby providing insect control. See U.S. Patent Nos. 5,380,831; 5,567,600; and 5,567,862 to Mycogen Corporation. Transgenic *B.t.* plants are quite efficacious, and usage is predicted to be high in some crops and areas. This has caused some concern that resistance management issues may arise more quickly than with

traditional sprayable applications. While a number of insects have been selected for resistance to *B.t.* toxins in the laboratory, only the diamondback moth (*Plutella xylostella*) has demonstrated resistance in a field setting (Ferre, J. and Van Rie, J., *Annu. Rev. Entomol.* 47:501-533, 2002).

[0017] Resistance management strategies in *B.t.* transgene plant technology have become of great interest (for example, as in a natural bacterium, multiple diverse toxins can be exposed on the same plant, thereby greatly reducing the chance that an insect that might be resistant to one toxin would survive to spread the resistance). Several strategies have been suggested for preserving the ability to effectively use *B. thuringiensis* toxins. These strategies include high dose with refuge, and alternation with, or co-deployment of, different toxins (McGaughey *et al.* (1998), "*B.t.* Resistance Management," *Nature Biotechnol* 16:144-146).

[0018] Thus, there remains a great need for developing additional genes that can be expressed in plants in order to effectively control various insects. In addition to continually trying to discover new *B.t.* toxins, it would be quite desirable to discover other bacterial sources (distinct from *B.t.*) that produce toxins that could be used in transgenic plant strategies, or that could be combined with *B.t.s* to produce insect-controlling transgenic plants.

[0019] The recent efforts to clone insecticidal toxin genes from the *Photorhabdus/Xenorhabdus* group of bacteria present potential alternatives to toxins derived from *B. thuringiensis*. It has been known in the art that bacteria of the genus *Xenorhabdus* are symbiotically associated with the *Steinernema* nematode. Unfortunately, as reported in a number of articles, the bacteria only had pesticidal activity when injected into insect larvae and did not exhibit biological activity when delivered orally.

[0020] It has been difficult to effectively exploit the insecticidal properties of the nematode or its bacterial symbiont. Thus, it would be quite desirable to discover proteinaceous agents from *Xenorhabdus* bacteria that have oral activity so that the products produced therefrom could be formulated as a sprayable insecticide, or the bacterial genes encoding said proteinaceous agents could be isolated and used in the production of transgenic plants. WO 95/00647 relates to the use of *Xenorhabdus* protein toxin to control insects, but it does not recognize orally active toxins. WO 98/08388 relates to orally administered pesticidal agents from *Xenorhabdus*. U.S. Patent No. 6,048,838 relates to protein toxins/toxin complexes, having oral activity, obtainable from *Xenorhabdus* species and strains.

[0021] *Photorhabdus* and *Xenorhabdus* spp. are Gram-negative bacteria that entomopathogenically and symbiotically associate with soil nematodes. These bacteria are found in the gut of entomopathogenic nematodes that invade and kill insects. When the nematode invades an insect host, the bacteria are released into the insect haemocoel (the open circulatory system), and both the bacteria and the nematode undergo multiple rounds of replication; the insect host typically dies. These bacteria can be cultured away from their nematode hosts. For a more detailed discussion of these bacteria, see Forst and Nealson, 60 *Microbiol. Rev.* 1 (1996), pp. 21-43.

[0022] The genus *Xenorhabdus* is taxonomically defined as a member of the Family Enterobacteriaceae, although it has certain traits atypical of this family. For example, strains of this genus are typically nitrate reduction negative and catalase negative. *Xenorhabdus* has only recently been subdivided to create a second genus, *Photorhabdus*, which is comprised of the single species *Photorhabdus luminescens* (previously *Xenorhabdus luminescens*) (Boemare *et al.*, 1993 *Int. J. Syst. Bacteriol.* 43, 249-255). This differentiation is based on several distinguishing characteristics easily identifiable by the skilled artisan. These differences include the following: DNA-DNA characterization studies; phenotypic presence (*Photorhabdus*) or absence (*Xenorhabdus*) of catalase activity; presence (*Photorhabdus*) or absence (*Xenorhabdus*) of bioluminescence; the Family of the nematode host in that *Xenorhabdus* is found in *Steinernematidae* and *Photorhabdus* is found in *Heterorhabditidae*; as well as comparative, cellular fatty-acid analyses (Janse *et al.* 1990, *Lett. Appl. Microbiol.* 10, 131-135; Suzuki *et al.* 1990, *J. Gen. Appl. Microbiol.*, 36, 393-401). In addition, recent molecular studies focused on sequence (Rainey *et al.* 1995, *Int. J. Syst. Bacteriol.*, 45, 379-381) and restriction analysis (Brunel *et al.*, 1997, *App. Environ. Micro.*, 63, 574-580) of 16S rRNA genes also support the separation of these two genera.

[0023] The expected traits for *Xenorhabdus* are the following: Gram stain negative rods, white to yellow/brown colony pigmentation, presence of inclusion bodies, absence of catalase, inability to reduce nitrate, absence of bioluminescence, ability to uptake dye from medium, positive gelatin hydrolysis, growth on Enterobacteriaceae selective media, growth temperature below 37° C, survival under anaerobic conditions, and motility.

[0024] Currently, the bacterial genus *Xenorhabdus* is comprised of four recognized species, *Xenorhabdus nematophilus*, *Xenorhabdus poinarii*, *Xenorhabdus bovienii* and *Xenorhabdus*

beddingii (Brunel *et al.*, 1997, *App. Environ. Micro.*, 63, 574-580). A variety of related strains have been described in the literature (*e.g.*, Akhurst and Boemare 1988 *J. Gen. Microbiol.*, 134, 1835-1845; Boemare *et al.* 1993 *Int. J. Syst. Bacteriol.* 43, pp. 249-255; Putz *et al.* 1990, *Appl. Environ. Microbiol.*, 56, 181-186, Brunel *et al.*, 1997, *App. Environ. Micro.*, 63, 574-580, Rainey *et al.* 1995, *Int. J. Syst. Bacteriol.*, 45, 379-381).

[0025] *Xenorhabdus* and *Photorhabdus* bacteria secrete a wide variety of substances into the culture medium; these secretions include lipases, proteases, antibiotics and lipopolysaccharides. Purification of different protease fractions has clearly demonstrated that they are not involved in the oral toxic activity of *P. luminescens* culture medium (which has been subsequently determined to reside with the Tc proteins only). Several of these substances have previously been implicated in insect toxicity but until recently no insecticidal genes had been cloned. However, protease purification and separation will also facilitate an examination of their putative role in, for example, inhibiting antibacterial proteins such as cecropin. R.H. ffrench-Constant and Bowen, *Current Opinions in Microbiology*, 1999, 12:284-288. See R.H. ffrench-Constant *et al.* 66 *AEM* No. 8, pp. 3310-3329 (Aug. 2000), for a review of various factors involved in *Photorhabdus* virulence of insects.

[0026] There has been substantial progress in the cloning of genes encoding insecticidal toxins from both *Photorhabdus luminescens* and *Xenorhabdus nematophilus*. Toxin-complex encoding genes from *P. luminescens* were examined first. See, *e.g.*, WO 98/08932. "Parallel" genes were more recently cloned from *X. nematophilus*. Morgan *et al.*, *Applied and Environmental Microbiology* 2001, 67:2062-69.

[0027] Four different toxin complexes (TCs)—Tca, Tcb, Tcc and Tcd—have been identified in *Photorhabdus* spp. Each of these toxin complexes resolves as either a single or dimeric species on a native agarose gel but resolution on a denaturing gel reveals that each complex consists of a range of species between 25-280 kDa. The ORFs that encode the TCs from *Photorhabdus*, together with protease cleavage sites (vertical arrows), are illustrated in Figure 1. See also R.H. ffrench-Constant and Bowen, 57 *Cell. Mol. Life Sci.* 828-833 (2000).

[0028] Genomic libraries of *P. luminescens* were screened with DNA probes and with monoclonal and/or polyclonal antibodies raised against the toxins. Four *tc* loci were cloned: *tca*, *tcb*, *tcc* and *tcd*. The *tca* locus is a putative operon of three open reading frames (ORFs), *tcaA*, *tcaB*, and *tcaC* transcribed from the same DNA strand, with a smaller terminal ORF (*tcaZ*)

transcribed in the opposite direction. The *tcc* locus also is comprised of three ORFs putatively transcribed in the same direction (*tccA*, *tccB*, and *tccC*). The *tcb* locus is a single large ORF (*tcbA*), and the *tcd* locus is composed of two ORFs (*tcdA* and *tcdB*); *tcbA* and *tcdA*, each about 7.5 kb, encode large insect toxins. TcdB has some homology to TcaC. Many of these gene products were determined to be cleaved by proteases. For example, both TcbA and TcdA are cleaved into three fragments termed i, ii and iii (e.g. TcbAi, TcbAii and TcbAiii). Products of the *tca* and *tcc* ORFs are also cleaved. See Figure 1. See also R.H. ffrench-Constant and D.J. Bowen, *Current Opinions in Microbiology*, 1999, 12:284-288.

[0029] Bioassays of the Tca toxin complexes revealed them to be highly toxic to first instar tomato hornworms (*Manduca sexta*) when given orally (LD₅₀ of 875 ng per square centimeter of artificial diet). R.H. ffrench-Constant and Bowen 1999. Feeding was inhibited at Tca doses as low as 40 ng/cm². Given the high predicted molecular weight of Tca, on a molar basis, *P. luminescens* toxins are highly active and relatively few molecules appear to be necessary to exert a toxic effect. R.H. ffrench-Constant and Bowen, *Current Opinions in Microbiology*, 1999, 12:284-288.

[0030] None of the four loci showed overall similarity to any sequences of known function in GenBank. Regions of sequence similarity raised some suggestion that these proteins (TcaC and TccA) may overcome insect immunity by attacking insect hemocytes. R.H. ffrench-Constant and Bowen, *Current Opinions in Microbiology*, 1999, 12:284-288.

[0031] TcaB, TcbA, and TcdA all show amino acid conservation (~50% identity), compared with each other, immediately around their predicted protease cleavage sites. This conservation between three different TC proteins suggests that they may all be processed by the same or similar proteases. TcbA and TcdA also share ~50% identity overall, as well as a similar predicted pattern of both carboxy- and amino-terminal cleavage. It was postulated that these proteins might thus be homologs of one another. Furthermore, the similar, large size of TcbA and TcdA, and also the fact that both toxins appear to act on the gut of the insect, may suggest similar modes of action. R.H. ffrench-Constant and Bowen, *Current Opinions in Microbiology*, 1999, 12:284-288.

[0032] Deletion/knock-out studies suggest that products of the *tca* and *tcd* loci account for the majority of oral toxicity to lepidopterans. Deletion of either of the *tca* or *tcd* genes greatly reduced oral activity against *Manduca sexta*. That is, products of the *tca* and *tcd* loci are oral

lepidopteran toxins on their own; their combined effect contributed most of the secreted oral activity. R.H. ffrench-Constant and D.J. Bowen, 57 *Cell. Mol. Life. Sci.* 831 (2000). Interestingly, deletion of either of the *tcb* or *tcc* loci alone also reduces mortality, suggesting that there may be complex interactions among the different gene products. Thus, products of the *tca* locus may enhance the toxicity of *tcd* products. Alternatively, *tcd* products may modulate the toxicity of *tca* products and possibly other complexes. Noting that the above relates to oral activity against a single insect species, *tcb* or *tcc* loci may produce toxins that are more active against other groups of insects (or active via injection directly into the insect haemocoel—the normal route of delivery when secreted by the bacteria *in vivo*). R.H. ffrench-Constant and Bowen, *Current Opinions in Microbiology*, 1999, 12:284-288.

[0033] WO 01/11029 discloses nucleotide sequences that encode TcdA and TcbA and have base compositions that have been altered from that of the native genes to make them more similar to plant genes. Also disclosed are transgenic plants that express Toxin A and Toxin B.

[0034] Of the separate toxins isolated from *Photorhabdus luminescens* (W-14), those designated Toxin A and Toxin B have been the subject of focused investigation for their activity against target insect species of interest (e.g., corn rootworm). Toxin A is comprised of two different subunits. The native gene *tcdA* encodes protoxin TcdA. As determined by mass spectrometry, TcdA is processed by one or more proteases to provide Toxin A. More specifically, TcdA is an approximately 282.9 kDa protein (2516 aa) that is processed to provide TcdAi (the first 88 amino acids), TcdAii (the next 1849 aa; an approximately 208.2 kDa protein encoded by nucleotides 265-5811 of *tcdA*), and TcdAiii, an approximately 63.5 kDa (579 aa) protein (encoded by nucleotides 5812-7551 of *tcdA*). TcdAii and TcdAiii appear to assemble into a dimer (perhaps aided by TcdAi), and the dimers assemble into a tetramer of four dimers. Toxin B is similarly derived from TcbA.

[0035] While the exact molecular interactions of the TC proteins with each other, and their mechanism(s) of action, are not currently understood, it is known, for example, that the Tca toxin complex of *Photorhabdus* is toxic to *Manduca sexta*. In addition, some TC proteins are known to have “stand alone” insecticidal activity, while other TC proteins are known to potentiate or enhance the activity of the stand-alone toxins. It is known that the TcdA protein is active, alone, against *Manduca sexta*, but that TcdB and TccC, together, can be used to enhance the activity of TcdA. Waterfield, N. *et al.*, *Appl. Environ. Microbiol.* 2001, 67:5017-5024. TcbA (there is

only one Tcb protein) is another stand-alone toxin from *Photorhabdus*. The activity of this toxin (TcbA) can also be enhanced by TcdB together with TccC-like proteins.

[0036] U.S. Patent Application 20020078478 provides nucleotide sequences for two potentiator genes, tcdB2 and tccC2, from the tcd genomic region of *Photorhabdus luminescens* W-14. It is shown therein that coexpression of tcdB and tccC1 with tcdA results in enhanced levels of oral insect toxicity compared to that obtained when tcdA is expressed alone. Coexpression of tcdB and tccC1 with tcdA or tcbA provide enhanced oral insect activity.

[0037] As indicated in the chart below, TccA has some level of homology with the N terminus of TcdA, and TccB has some level of homology with the C terminus of TcdA. TccA and TccB are much less active on certain test insects than is TcdA. TccA and TccB from *Photorhabdus* strain W-14 are called "Toxin D." "Toxin A" (TcdA), "Toxin B" (TcbA), and "Toxin C" (TcaA and TcaB) are also indicated below. Furthermore, TcaA has some level of homology with TccA and likewise with the N terminus of TcdA. Still further, TcaB has some level of homology with TccB and likewise with the N terminus of TcdA. TccA and TcaA are of a similar size, as are TccB and TcaB. TcdB has a significant level of similarity (both in sequence and size) to TcaC.

<i>Photorhabdus</i> strain W14 nomenclature		Some homology to:
TcaA	Toxin C	TccA
TcaB		TccB
TcaC		TcdB
TcbA	Toxin B	
TccA	Toxin D	TcdA N terminus
TccB		TcdA C terminus
TccC		
TcdA	Toxin A	TccA + TccB
TcdB		TcaC

[0038] The insect midgut epithelium contains both columnar (structural) and goblet (secretory) cells. Ingestion of *tca* products by *M. sexta* leads to apical swelling and blebbing of large cytoplasmic vesicles by the columnar cells, leading to the eventual extrusion of cell nuclei in vesicles into the gut lumen. Goblet cells are also apparently affected in the same fashion. Products of *tca* act on the insect midgut following either oral delivery or injection. R.H. ffrench-Constant and D.J. Bowen, *Current Opinions in Microbiology*, 1999, 12:284-288. Purified *tca* products have shown oral toxicity against *Manduca sexta* (LD₅₀ of 875 ng/cm²). R.H. ffrench-Constant and D.J. Bowen, *57 Cell. Mol. Life Sci.* 828-833 (2000).

[0039] WO 99/42589 and U.S. Patent No. 6,281,413 disclose TC-like ORFs from *Photorhabdus luminescens*. WO 00/30453 and WO 00/42855 disclose TC-like proteins from *Xenorhabdus*. WO 99/03328 and WO 99/54472 (and U.S. Patent Nos. 6,174,860 and 6,277,823) relate to other toxins from *Xenorhabdus* and *Photorhabdus*.

[0040] Relatively recent cloning efforts in *Xenorhabdus nematophilus* also appear to have identified novel insecticidal toxin genes with homology to the *P. luminescens tc* loci. See, e.g., WO 98/08388 and Morgan *et al.*, *Applied and Environmental Microbiology* 2001, 67:2062-69. In R.H. French-Constant and D.J. Bowen, *Current Opinions in Microbiology*, 1999, 12:284-288, cosmid clones were screened directly for oral toxicity to another lepidopteran, *Pieris brassicae*. One orally toxic cosmid clone was sequenced. Analysis of the sequence in that cosmid suggested that there are five different ORF's with similarity to *Photorhabdus tc* genes; *orf2* and *orf5* both have some level of sequence relatedness to both *tcbA* and *tcdA*, whereas *orf1* is similar to *tccB*, *orf3* is similar to *tccC* and *orf4* is similar to *tcaC*. Importantly, a number of these predicted ORFs also share the putative cleavage site documented in *P. luminescens*, suggesting that active toxins may also be proteolytically processed.

[0041] There are five typical *Xenorhabdus* TC proteins: XptA1, XptA2, XptB1, XptC1, and XptD1. XptA1 is a "stand-alone" toxin. XptA2 is another TC protein from *Xenorhabdus* that has stand-alone toxin activity. See GENBANK Accession No. AJ308438 for sequences from *Xenorhabdus nematophilus*. XptB1 and XptC1 are the *Xenorhabdus* potentiators that can enhance the activity of either (or both) of the XptA toxins. XptD1 has some level of homology with TccB. XptC1 has some level of similarity to TcaC. The XptA2 protein of *Xenorhabdus* has some degree of similarity to the TcdA protein. XptB1 has some level of similarity to TccC.

[0042] The finding of somewhat similar, toxin-encoding loci in these two different bacteria is interesting in terms of the possible origins of these virulence genes. The *X. nematophilus* cosmid also appears to contain transposase-like sequences whose presence may suggest that these loci can be transferred horizontally between different strains or species of bacteria. A range of such transfer events may also explain the apparently different genomic organization of the *tc* operons in the two different bacteria. Further, only a subset of *X. nematophilus* and *P. luminescens* strains appear toxic to *M. sexta*, suggesting either that different strains lack the *tc* genes or that they carry a different *tc* gene complement. Detailed analysis of both a strain and toxin phylogeny within, and between, these bacterial species should help clarify the likely origin of the toxin genes and

how they are maintained in different bacterial populations. R.H. French-Constant and Bowen, *Current Opinions in Microbiology*, 1999, 12:284-288.

[0043] TC proteins and genes have more recently been described from other insect-associated bacteria such as *Serratia entomophila*, an insect pathogen. Waterfield *et al.*, *TRENDS in Microbiology*, Vol. 9, No. 4, April 2001.

[0044] In summary, toxin complex proteins from *P. luminescens* and *X. nematophilus* appear to have little homology to previously identified bacterial toxins and should provide useful alternatives to toxins derived from *B. thuringiensis*. Although they have similar toxic effects on the insect midgut to other orally active toxins, their precise mode of action remains obscure. Future work could clarify their mechanism of action.

[0045] Although some *Xenorhabdus* TC proteins were found to "correspond" (have a similar function and some level of sequence homology) to some of the *Photorhabdus* TC proteins, a given *Photorhabdus* protein shares only about 40% sequence identity with the "corresponding" *Xenorhabdus* protein. This is illustrated below for four "stand-alone" toxins:

	Identity to P.l. W-14 TcbA	Identity to P.l. W-14 TcdA
Xwi XptA1	44%	46%
Xwi XptA2	41%	41%

(For a more complete review, see, e.g., Morgan *et al.*, "Sequence Analysis of Insecticidal Genes from *Xenorhabdus nematophiles* PMFI296," Vol. 67, *Applied and Environmental Microbiology*, May 2001, pp. 2062-2069.)

[0046] Bacteria of the genus *Paenibacillus* are distinguishable from other bacteria by distinctive rRNA and phenotypic characteristics (C. Ash *et al.* (1993), "Molecular identification of rRNA group 3 bacilli (Ash, Farrow, Wallbanks and Collins) using a PCR probe test: Proposal for the creation of a new genus *Paenibacillus*," *Antonie Van Leeuwenhoek* 64:253-260). Comparative 16S rRNA sequence analysis demonstrated that the genus *Bacillus* consisted of at least five phyletic lines. Ribosomal RNA group 3 bacilli (of Ash, Farrow, Wallbanks, and Collins (1991), comprising *Bacillus polymyxa* and close relatives), is phylogenetically so removed from *Bacillus subtilis* (the type species of the genus and other aerobic, endospore-forming bacilli) that they were reclassified as a new genus, *Paenibacillus*.

[0047] Some species in this genus were known to be pathogenic to honeybees (*Paenibacillus Larvae*) and scarab beetle grubs (*P. popilliae* and *P. lentimorbus*). Some other *Paenibacillus* species that have been found to be associated with honeybees, but they are non-pathogens. At least 18 additional species are known in this genus, including *P. thiaminolyticus*; they have no known insect association (Shida *et al.*, 1997; Pettersson *et al.*, 1999). Scarabs (coleopterans) are serious pests of turf, nurseries, and food crops throughout North America, and are of quarantine concern. See U.S. Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service website.

[0048] *P. larvae*, *P. popilliae*, and *P. lentimorbus* are considered obligate insect pathogens involved with milky disease of scarab beetles (D.P. Stahly *et al.* (1992), "The genus *Bacillus*: insect pathogens," p. 1697-1745, In A. Balows *et al.*, ed., *The Prokaryotes*, 2nd Ed., Vol. 2, Springer-Verlag, New York, NY). These three *Paenibacillus* species are characteristically slow-growing, fastidious organisms that cause disease by an invasive process in which the bacteria cross the midgut and proliferate to high numbers in the hemolymph and other tissues. For all three species, some general indications of protein involvement in insect pathogenicity have been proposed; however, no specific role for a specific protein has been demonstrated. Stahly *et al.* concluded for *P. larvae* that a question of the involvement of a toxin is an open one, and that the precise cause of death in milky disease (of beetles) is not understood.

[0049] A beetle (coleopteran) toxin, Cry18, has been identified in strains of *P. popilliae* and *P. lentimorbus*. Cry18 has about 40% identity to Cry2 proteins (Zhang *et al.*, 1997; Harrison *et al.*, 2000). While Zhang *et al.* (1997) speculate that Cry18 attacks the midgut to facilitate entry of vegetative cells to the hemocoel, Harrison *et al.* note that there is no direct evidence for this role and further state that "the role, if any, of the paraspore protein in milky disease is unknown." J. Zhang *et al.* (1997), "Cloning and Analysis of the First *cry* Gene from *Bacillus popilliae*," *J. Bacteriol.* 179:4336-4341; H. Harrison *et al.* (2000), "*Paenibacillus* Associated with Milky Disease in Central and South American Scarabs," *J. Invertebr. Pathol.* 76(3):169-175.

[0050] Stahly *et al.*, Zhang *et al.*, and Harrison *et al.* all point to the contrast in evidence for the role of crystal proteins of *B. thuringiensis* in intoxication of insects (where the high frequency of insect symptoms can be explained by the properties of the specific crystal proteins), versus the case of *Paenibacillus* and milky disease (where there is no such tie to the effects of a specific toxin).

[0051] Thus, while some species of *Paenibacillus* were known to be pathogenic to certain coleopterans and some associated with honeybees, no strain of *Paenibacillus* was heretofore known to be toxic to lepidopterans. Likewise, TC proteins and lepidopteran-toxic *Cry* proteins have never been reported in *Paenibacillus*.

Brief Summary of the Invention

[0052] This is the first known disclosure of *Paenibacillus* protein toxins having activity against lepidopteran pests. Some species of *Paenibacillus* were known to be insecticidal, but they had activity against grubs/beetles/coleopterans. There have been no known reports of a *Paenibacillus* species or strain having toxicity to lepidopterans. Thus, the subject invention relates generally to *Paenibacillus* species that have activity against lepidopterans, and to screening *Paenibacillus* spp., proteins therefrom, and libraries of clones therefrom for activity against lepidopterans.

[0053] More specifically, the subject invention initially stemmed from a discovery of a novel strain of *Paenibacillus* referred to herein as DAS1529. This was a surprising discovery for a variety of reasons. This strain produces a unique, lepidopteran-toxic *Cry* protein. This strain, as well as DB482, produce unique, toxin complex (TC)-like proteins (having some similarity to *Xenorhabdus/Photorhabdus* TCs). *Paenibacillus* isolate DB482 and toxins obtainable therefrom are highly preferred, and all are within the scope of the subject invention.

[0054] This is the first known report of *Paenibacillus* having TC-like proteins. Thus, the subject invention relates to methods of screening *Paenibacillus* spp. for TC-like genes and proteins. *Paenibacillus* TC proteins of the subject invention are shown herein to be useful to enhance or potentiate the activity of a "stand-alone" *Xenorhabdus* toxin protein, for example. TC-like genes identified herein were not heretofore known to exist in the genus *Paenibacillus*. This discovery broadens the scope of organisms (bacterial genera) in which TC-like genes have been found. Thus, the subject invention generally relates to TC-like proteins obtainable from *Paenibacillus* species, to methods of screening *Paenibacillus* species for such proteins, and the like. One example is *Paenibacillus apairius*, which was also found to produce TC-like proteins.

[0055] While the subject TC-like proteins have some sequence relatedness to, and characteristics in common with, TC proteins of *Xenorhabdus* and *Photorhabdus*, the sequences of the subject TC-like proteins are very different from previously known TC proteins. Thus, the subject application

provides new classes of TC-like proteins and genes that encode these proteins, which are obtainable from bacteria in the genera *Paenibacillus*, *Photorhabdus*, *Xenorhabdus*, and the like.

[0056] Another surprising feature of the DAS1529 strain is that it produces a unique, *B.t.*-like *Cry* protein that is toxic to lepidopterans. The subject *Cry* toxin is compressed/short and appears to lack a typical protoxin portion in its wild-type state. Thus, the subject invention generally relates to screening *Paenibacillus* isolates for lepidopteran-toxic *Cry* proteins. The subject invention also relates to methods of screening *Paenibacillus* spp. and *B. thuringiensis*, for example, for this new class of *Cry* genes and proteins.

[0057] The DAS1529 strain is the first known example of a natural bacterium that produces both a *Cry*-like toxin and TC-like proteins. Further surprising is that this is the first known example of a *cry* toxin gene being closely associated with (in genetic proximity to) TC protein genes. These pioneering observations have broad implications and thus enable one skilled in the art to screen appropriate species of bacteria for these types of unique operons and for these types of further components of known operons. Such techniques are within the scope of the subject invention.

[0058] A further aspect of the subject invention stems from the surprising discovery that the DAS1529 strain also produces a soluble insect toxin that was found to be very similar to a thiaminase. It was surprising that the *Paenibacillus* thiaminase protein was found to have insecticidal activity. While this type of protein was known, it was in no way expected in the art that this enzyme would have exhibited toxin-like activity against insects/insect-like pests. Thus, the subject invention also relates to methods of screening *Paenibacillus* and others for insecticidal thiaminase genes and proteins, and to the use of these genes and proteins for controlling insects and like pests.

[0059] Other objects, advantages, and features of the subject invention will be apparent to one skilled in the art having the benefit of the subject disclosure.

Brief Description of the Figures

[0060] Figure 1 shows the TC operons from *Photorhabdus*.

[0061] Figure 2 shows a diagram of the DNA from DAS1529 inserted into the "SB12" clone that exhibited pesticidal activity, with open reading frames identified with block and line arrows.

[0062] Figure 3 shows partial sequence alignments for SEQ ID NO:17 and thiaminase I from *Bacillus thiaminolyticus* (Campobasso *et al.*, 1998) or AAC44156.

- [0063] **Figure 4** shows test results of purified thiaminase from DAS1529 on CEW.
- [0064] **Figure 5** shows ORF3-ORF6 in pEt101D.
- [0065] **Figure 6** shows *Cry*1529 (ORF 7) against tobacco bud worm (TBW).
- [0066] **Figure 7** shows a comparison/alignment of SEQ ID NO:9 to SEQ ID NO:5 (*tcaB*₂ to *tcaB*₁); the brackets show the ORF2 junction.
- [0067] **Figure 8** shows a phylogenetic tree of DAS1529 ORF7 (*Cry*1529) compared to other *Cry* proteins.
- [0068] **Figures 9 and 10** show results of trypsin digestion of wild-type and modified *Cry*1529 proteins.
- [0069] **Figures 11A and 11B** show sequence alignments for *tcaA* primer design.
- [0070] **Figures 12A-D** show sequence alignments for *tcaB* primer design.
- [0071] **Figures 13A and 13B** show sequence alignments for *tcaC* primer design.
- [0072] **Figures 14A and 14B** show sequence alignments for *tccC* primer design.

Brief Description of the Sequences

- [0073] **SEQ ID NO:1** is the nucleic acid sequence of the entire insert of SB12.
- [0074] **SEQ ID NO:2** is the nucleic acid sequence of ORF1, which encodes a *tcaA*-like protein (gene *tcaA1*, source organism *Paenibacillus* strain IDAS 1529, gene designation *tcaA1-1529*).
- [0075] **SEQ ID NO:3** is the amino acid sequence encoded by ORF1.
- [0076] **SEQ ID NO:4** is the nucleic acid sequence of ORF2, with an IS element removed, which encodes a *tcaB*-like protein (gene *tcaB1*, source organism *Paenibacillus* strain IDAS 1529, gene designation *tcaB1-1529*).
- [0077] **SEQ ID NO:5** is the amino acid sequence encoded by ORF2.
- [0078] **SEQ ID NO:6** is the nucleic acid sequence of ORF3, which encodes a *tcaA*-like protein (gene *tcaA2*, source organism *Paenibacillus* strain IDAS 1529, gene designation *tcaA2-1529*).
- [0079] **SEQ ID NO:7** is the amino acid sequence encoded by ORF3.
- [0080] **SEQ ID NO:8** is the nucleic acid sequence of ORF4, which encodes a *tcaB*-like protein (gene *tcaB2*, source organism *Paenibacillus* strain IDAS 1529, gene designation *tcaB2-1529*).
- [0081] **SEQ ID NO:9** is the amino acid sequence encoded by ORF4.
- [0082] **SEQ ID NO:10** is the nucleic acid sequence of ORF5, which encodes a *tcaC*-like protein (gene *tcaC*, source organism *Paenibacillus* strain IDAS 1529, gene designation *tcaC-1529*).

- [0083] SEQ ID NO:11 is the amino acid sequence encoded by ORF5.
- [0084] SEQ ID NO:12 is the nucleic acid sequence of ORF6, which encodes a tccC-like protein.
- [0085] SEQ ID NO:13 is the amino acid sequence encoded by ORF6.
- [0086] SEQ ID NO:14 is the nucleic acid sequence of ORF7, which encodes a Cry-like protein.
- [0087] SEQ ID NO:15 is the amino acid sequence encoded by ORF7.
- [0088] SEQ ID NO:16 is the partial nucleic acid sequence of the 16S rDNA of DAS1529 used for taxonomic placement.
- [0089] SEQ ID NO:17 is the N-terminal amino acid sequence for the purified toxin from the broth fraction from DAS1529.
- [0090] SEQ ID NO:18 is the amino acid sequence of thiaminase I from *Bacillus thiaminolyticus* (Campobasso *et al.*, *J. Biochem.* 37(45):15981-15989 (1998)).
- [0091] SEQ ID NO:19 is an alternate amino acid sequence encoded by ORF6 protein (gene *tccC*, source organism *Paenibacillus* strain IDAS 1529, gene designation *tccC-1529*).
- [0092] SEQ ID NO:20 is gene *xptC1*, source organism *Xenorhabdus* strain Xwi, gene designation *xptC1-Xwi*.
- [0093] SEQ ID NO:21 is gene *xptB1*, source organism *Xenorhabdus* strain Xwi, gene designation *xptB1-Xwi*.
- [0094] SEQ ID NO:22 is primer SB101.
- [0095] SEQ ID NO:23 is primer SB102.
- [0096] SEQ ID NO:24 is primer SB103.
- [0097] SEQ ID NO:25 is primer SB104.
- [0098] SEQ ID NO:26 is primer SB105.
- [0099] SEQ ID NO:27 is primer SB106.
- [00100] SEQ ID NO:28 is primer SB212.
- [00101] SEQ ID NO:29 is primer SB213.
- [00102] SEQ ID NO:30 is primer SB215.
- [00103] SEQ ID NO:31 is primer SB217.
- [00104] SEQ ID NO:32 is a nucleotide sequence from a *tcaA*-like gene from *Paenibacillus apairius* strain DB482.
- [00105] SEQ ID NO:33 is an amino acid sequence from a TcaA-like protein from *Paenibacillus apairius* strain DB482.

- [00106] SEQ ID NO:34 is a nucleotide sequence from a *tcaB*-like gene from *Paenibacillus apairius* strain DB482.
- [00107] SEQ ID NO:35 is a nucleotide sequence from a *tcaB*-like gene from *Paenibacillus apairius* strain DB482.
- [00108] SEQ ID NO:36 is an amino acid sequence from a *TcaB*-like protein from *Paenibacillus apairius* strain DB482.
- [00109] SEQ ID NO:37 is an amino acid sequence from a *TcaB*-like protein from *Paenibacillus apairius* strain DB482.
- [00110] SEQ ID NO:38 is a nucleotide sequence from a *tcaC*-like gene from *Paenibacillus apairius* strain DB482.
- [00111] SEQ ID NO:39 is an amino acid sequence from a *TcaC*-like protein from *Paenibacillus apairius* strain DB482.
- [00112] SEQ ID NO:40 is a nucleotide sequence from a *tccC*-like gene from *Paenibacillus apairius* strain DB482.
- [00113] SEQ ID NO:41 is an amino acid sequence from a *TccC*-like protein from *Paenibacillus apairius* strain DB482.
- [00114] SEQ ID NO:42 is gene *tcdB1*, source organism *Photorhabdus* strain W14, gene designation *tcdB1-W14*.
- [00115] SEQ ID NO:43 is gene *tcdB2*, source organism *Photorhabdus* strain W14, gene designation *tcdB2-W14*.
- [00116] SEQ ID NO:44 is gene *tccC1*, source organism *Photorhabdus* strain W14, gene designation *tccC1-W14*.
- [00117] SEQ ID NO:45 is gene *tccC2*, source organism *Photorhabdus* strain W14, gene designation *tccC2-W14*.
- [00118] SEQ ID NO:46 is gene *tccC3*, source organism *Photorhabdus* strain W14, gene designation *tccC3-W14*.
- [00119] SEQ ID NO:47 is gene *tccC4*, source organism *Photorhabdus* strain W14, gene designation *tccC4-W14*.
- [00120] SEQ ID NO:48 is gene *tccC5*, source organism *Photorhabdus* strain W14, gene designation *tccC5-W14*.

[00121] SEQ ID NO:49 is the amino acid sequence of the XptA2 TC protein from *Xenorhabdus nematophilus* Xwi.

Detailed Description of the Invention

[00122] The subject invention provides unique biological alternatives for pest control. More specifically, the subject invention provides new sources of proteins that have toxin activity against insects, preferably lepidopterans, and other similar pests. The invention also relates to new sources of novel polynucleotides that can be used to encode such toxins, and to methods of making and methods of using the toxins and corresponding nucleic acid sequences to control insects and other like plant pests. The present invention addresses the need for novel insect control agents. The present invention relates to novel pesticidal proteins that are obtainable from *Paenibacillus*, and other, bacteria.

[00123] The subject invention initially stemmed from a discovery of a novel strain of *Paenibacillus*. This strain is referred to herein as DAS1529. To demonstrate the broad implications of this discovery, the discovery of another *Paenibacillus* strain is also exemplified. These strains have been deposited with the Agricultural Research Service Patent Culture Collection (NRRL) at 1815 North University Street Peoria, Ill. 61604 U.S.A. The deposited strains and the corresponding deposit dates and deposit numbers are as follows:

<u>Deposited Strain</u>	<u>Deposit Date</u>	<u>Deposit Number</u>
DAS1529	June 19, 2002	NRRL B-30599
DB482	June 17, 2003	NRRL B-30670

[00124] These cultures have been deposited for the purposes of this patent application and were deposited under conditions that assure that access to the cultures is available during the pendency of this patent application to one determined by the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to be entitled thereto under 37 CFR 1.14 and 35 U.S.C. 122. These deposits will be available as required by foreign patent laws in countries wherein counterparts of the subject application, or its progeny, are filed. However, it should be understood that the availability of a deposit does not constitute a license to practice the subject invention in derogation of patent rights granted by governmental action.

[00125] Further, the subject culture deposits were made in accordance with the provisions of the Budapest Treaty for the Deposit of Microorganisms, *i.e.*, they will be stored with all the care

necessary to keep them viable and uncontaminated for a period of at least five years after the most recent request for the furnishing of a sample of the deposit, and in any case, for a period of at least thirty (30) years after the date of deposit or for the enforceable life of any patent which may issue disclosing the culture. The depositor acknowledges the duty to replace the deposit should the depository be unable to furnish a sample when requested, due to the condition of the deposit. All restrictions on the availability to the public of the subject culture deposits will be irrevocably removed upon the granting of a patent disclosing them.

[00126] The discovery of the subject DAS1529 strain was surprising for a variety of reasons. This strain produces a unique, lepidopteran-toxic *Cry* protein. This strain, as well as DB482, also produce unique, toxin complex (TC)-like proteins (having some similarity to *Xenorhabdus/Photorhabdus* TCs). *Paenibacillus* isolate DB482 and toxins obtainable therefrom are highly preferred, and all are within the scope of the subject invention.

[00127] This is the first known disclosure of a *Paenibacillus* protein toxin having activity against a lepidopteran pest. The DAS1529 strain was found to have toxin activity against lepidopteran pests. This was a surprising discovery. Some species of *Paenibacillus* were known to have insecticidal activity against grubs/beetles/coleopterans. There have been no known reports of a *Paenibacillus* species or strain having toxicity to lepidopterans. Thus, the subject invention relates generally to *Paenibacillus* species that have activity against lepidopterans, and to screening *Paenibacillus* cultures, proteins therefrom, and libraries of clones therefrom, for activity against lepidopterans, and/or for genes that encode "lep toxins," and more particularly, for lepidopteran-toxic *Cry* proteins.

[00128] This is also the first known report of *Paenibacillus* having TC-like proteins. Thus, the subject invention relates to methods of screening *Paenibacillus* spp. for TC-like genes and proteins. It was very surprising to find that the DAS1529 and DB482 strains have TC-like operons and produce TC proteins (having some level of similarity to TC proteins of *Xenorhabdus* and *Photorhabdus*). TC proteins and genes identified herein were not heretofore known to exist in the genus *Paenibacillus*. This discovery broadens the scope of organisms (bacterial genera) in which TC protein genes have been found. Thus, the subject invention generally relates to TC proteins obtainable from *Paenibacillus* species, to methods of screening *Paenibacillus* species for such proteins, and the like. An example of a *Paenibacillus* species found using the methods of

the subject invention is *Paenibacillus apairius* strain DB482. This *P. apairius* strain also produces unique TC-like proteins.

[00129] While the subject TC proteins have some characteristics in common with TC proteins of *Xenorhabdus* and *Photorhabdus*, the subject TC proteins are unique and different from previously known TC proteins. Thus, the subject application provides new classes of TC-like proteins and genes that encode these proteins obtainable from bacteria in the genera *Paenibacillus*, *Photorhabdus*, *Xenorhabdus*, *Serratia*, and the like.

[00130] The subject invention also relates to lepidopteran-toxic *Cry* proteins that are obtainable from *Paenibacillus* species. Thus, the subject invention relates to methods of screening *Paenibacillus* species for *cry* genes and *Cry* proteins that have toxin activity against a lepidopteran pest.

[00131] The DAS1529 *Cry* toxin is a very unique, *B.t.*-like *Cry* protein toxin. One other strain of *Paenibacillus*, a strain with activity against grubs, was known to produce a coleopteran-toxic *Cry* protein. That was a *Cry*18 protein, which was most related to *Cry*2 proteins (but only about 40% identity). The *Cry* protein exemplified herein shows only a low level of sequence identity and similarity to previously known *Cry* proteins. With that noted, of all the known *B.t.* *Cry* proteins, the subject *Cry* protein shares the most similarity to *Cry*1 proteins. One surprising aspect of the subject *Cry* protein is that it is very short, *i.e.*, even shorter than the *Cry*1Fa core toxin. The subject *Cry* protein has an identifiable Block 5 region at or near its C terminus. This toxin in its wild-type state has no protoxin portion, which is typically found on *Cry*1 toxins. The subject *Cry* toxin is surprisingly compressed. Thus, the subject invention generally relates to a new class of *Cry* proteins. This disclosure is also significant to the search for additional *cry* genes from *Bacillus thuringiensis* (*B.t.*). As would be clear to one skilled in the art having the benefit of the subject disclosure, other bacteria, such as *B.t.* and other *Bacillus* spp. (including *sphaericus*) could be screened for similar toxins and toxin genes. These methods of screening are within the scope of the subject invention.

[00132] The DAS1529 strain is the first known example of a natural bacterium that produces both a *Cry*-like toxin and TC-like proteins. Further surprising is that this is the first known example of a *cry* toxin gene being closely associated with (in genetic proximity to) TC protein genes. These pioneering observations thus enable one skilled in the art to screen appropriate species of bacteria for these types of unique operons and for these types of further components of known operons.

Such techniques are within the scope of the subject invention. The DAS1529 strain is an interesting example of a wild type strain having a TC-like operon with multiple TC protein genes of the same general type (*i.e.*, in this case, two *tcaA*-like and two *tcaB*-like genes). This could have implications for further gene discovery.

[00133] A further aspect of the subject invention stems from the surprising discovery that the *Paenibacillus* thiaminase protein has insecticidal activity. While this protein was known, it was in no way expected in the art that this enzyme would have exhibited toxin-like activity against insects/insect-like pests.

[00134] *Paenibacillus* TC proteins

[00135] More specifically regarding the exemplified TC proteins, the following TC proteins from strain DAS1529 have been fully characterized herein: two *TcaA*-like proteins (*TcaA*₁ and *TcaA*₂), two *TcaB*-like proteins (*TcaB*₁ and *TcaB*₂), a *TcaC* protein, and a *TccC*-like protein. The *TcaA*₁ and *TcaA*₂ proteins are highly similar to each other at the sequence level, and the *tcaB*₁ and *tcaB*₂ proteins are highly similar to each other at the sequence level. TC-like proteins obtainable from *Paenibacillus apairius* are also exemplified herein, and are within the scope of the subject invention.

[00136] The TC proteins of the subject invention can be used like other TC proteins. This would be readily apparent to one skilled in the art having the benefit of the subject disclosure when viewed in light of what was known in the art. *See, e.g.*, the Background section, above, which discusses R.H. French-Constant and Bowen (2000) and U.S. Patent No. 6,048,838. For example, it was known that the *Tca* toxin complex of *Photorhabdus* is highly toxic to *Manduca sexta*.

[00137] While the exact molecular interactions of the TC proteins with each other, and their mechanism(s) of action, are not currently understood, some TC proteins were known to have "stand alone" insecticidal activity, and other TC proteins were known to enhance the activity of the stand-alone toxins produced by the same given organism. For example, it was known that the *TcdA* protein was active against *Manduca sexta*. *TcaC* and *TccC*, together, can be used to enhance the activity of *TcdA*. *TcdB* can be used (in place of *TcaC*) with *TccC* as a potentiator. *TcbA* is another *Photorhabdus* TC protein with stand-alone toxin activity. *TcaC* (or *TcdB*) together with *TccC* can also be used to enhance/potentiate the toxin activity of *TcbA*.

[00138] *Photorhabdus* TC proteins and "corresponding" TC proteins/genes from *Paenibacillus* are summarized below.

<i>Photorhabdus</i>	<i>Photorhabdus</i> strain W14 nomenclature	<i>Photorhabdus</i> Self homology	<i>Paenibacillus</i> 1529
TcaA	Toxin C	TccA	ORF3 (& 1)
TcaB		TccB	ORF4 (& 2)
TcaC		TcdB	ORF5
Tcb	Toxin B		
TccA	Toxin D	TcdA N terminus	
TccB		TcdA C terminus	
TccC			ORF6
TcdA	Toxin A	TccA + TccB	
TcdB		TcaC	

[00139] As indicated above, TccA has some level of homology with the N terminus of TcdA, and TccB has some level of homology with the C terminus of TcdA. Furthermore, TcdA is about 280 kDa, and TccA together with TccB are of about the same size, if combined, as TcdA. Furthermore, TcaA has some level of homology with TccA and likewise with the N terminus of TcdA. Still further, TcaB has some level of homology with TccB and likewise with the N terminus of TcdA. TccA and TcaA are of a similar size, as are TccB and TcaB.

[00140] Although some *Xenorhabdus* TC proteins were found to "correspond" to some of the *Photorhabdus* TC proteins, the "corresponding" proteins share only about 40% (approximately) sequence identity with each other. The subject TC proteins from *Paenibacillus* have about that same degree of sequence relatedness (~40% identity) with prior TC proteins.

[00141] As described in more detail below, one or more toxins of the subject invention can be used in combination with each other and/or with other toxins (i.e., the *Photorhabdus* Tca complex was known to be active against *Manduca sexta*; various "combinations" of *Photorhabdus* TC proteins, for example, can be used together to enhance the activity of other, stand-alone *Photorhabdus* toxins; the use of *Photorhabdus* toxins "with" *B.t.* toxins, for example, has been proposed for resistance management.) Furthermore, *Paenibacillus* TC proteins of the subject invention are shown herein to be useful to enhance or potentiate the activity of a "stand-alone" *Xenorhabdus* toxin protein, for example. Provisional application No. 60/441,723 (Timothy D. Hey *et al.*), entitled "Mixing and Matching TC Proteins for Pest Control," relates to the surprising discovery that a TC protein derived from an organism of one genus such as *Photorhabdus* can be used interchangeably with a "corresponding" TC protein derived from an

organism of another genus. Further surprising data along these lines is presented below which further illustrate the utility of the *Paenibacillus* TC proteins of the subject invention. One reason that these results might be surprising is that there is only ~40% sequence identity between "corresponding" *Xenorhabdus*, *Photorhabdus*, and the subject *Paenibacillus* TC proteins.

[00142] Proteins and toxins. The present invention provides easily administered, functional proteins. The present invention also provides a method for delivering insecticidal toxins that are functionally active and effective against many orders of insects, preferably lepidopteran insects. By "functional activity" (or "active against") it is meant herein that the protein toxins function as orally active insect control agents (alone or in combination with other proteins), that the proteins have a toxic effect (alone or in combination with other proteins), or are able to disrupt or deter insect growth and/or feeding which may or may not cause death of the insect. When an insect comes into contact with an effective amount of a "toxin" of the subject invention delivered via transgenic plant expression, formulated protein composition(s), sprayable protein composition(s), a bait matrix or other delivery system, the results are typically death of the insect, inhibition of the growth and/or proliferation of the insect, and/or prevention of the insects from feeding upon the source (preferably a transgenic plant) that makes the toxins available to the insects. Functional proteins of the subject invention can also enhance or improve the activity of other toxin proteins. Thus, terms such as "toxic," "toxicity," "toxin activity," and "pesticidally active" as used herein are meant to convey that the subject "toxins" have "functional activity" as defined herein.

[00143] Complete lethality to feeding insects is preferred, but is not required to achieve functional activity. If an insect avoids the toxin or ceases feeding, that avoidance will be useful in some applications, even if the effects are sublethal or lethality is delayed or indirect. For example, if insect resistant transgenic plants are desired, the reluctance of insects to feed on the plants is as useful as lethal toxicity to the insects because the ultimate objective is avoiding insect-induced plant damage.

[00144] There are many other ways in which toxins can be incorporated into an insect's diet. For example, it is possible to adulterate the larval food source with the toxic protein by spraying the food with a protein solution, as disclosed herein. Alternatively, the purified protein could be genetically engineered into an otherwise harmless bacterium, which could then be grown in culture, and either applied to the food source or allowed to reside in the soil in an area in which

insect eradication was desirable. Also, the protein could be genetically engineered directly into an insect food source. For instance, the major food source for many insect larvae is plant material. Therefore the genes encoding toxins can be transferred to plant material so that said plant material expresses the toxin of interest.

[00145] Transfer of the functional activity to plant or bacterial systems typically requires nucleic acid sequences, encoding the amino acid sequences for the toxins, integrated into a protein expression vector appropriate to the host in which the vector will reside. One way to obtain a nucleic acid sequence encoding a protein with functional activity is to isolate the native genetic material from the bacterial species which produce the toxins, using information deduced from the toxin's amino acid sequence, as disclosed herein. The native sequences can be optimized for expression in plants, for example, as discussed in more detail below. Optimized polynucleotide can also be designed based on the protein sequence.

[00146] The subject invention provides new classes of toxins having advantageous pesticidal activities. One way to characterize these classes of toxins and the polynucleotides that encode them is by defining a polynucleotide by its ability to hybridize, under a range of specified conditions, with an exemplified nucleotide sequence (the complement thereof and/or a probe or probes derived from either strand) and/or by their ability to be amplified by PCR using primers derived from the exemplified sequences.

[00147] There are a number of methods for obtaining the pesticidal toxins of the instant invention. For example, antibodies to the pesticidal toxins disclosed and claimed herein can be used to identify and isolate other toxins from a mixture of proteins. Specifically, antibodies may be raised to the portions of the toxins which are most constant and most distinct from other toxins. These antibodies can then be used to specifically identify equivalent toxins with the characteristic activity by immunoprecipitation, enzyme linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA), or western blotting. Antibodies to the toxins disclosed herein, or to equivalent toxins, or to fragments of these toxins, can be readily prepared using standard procedures. Monoclonal, polyclonal, specific, and/or cross-reactive antibodies can be made and used according to the subject invention. Such antibodies can be included in test kits for detecting the presence of proteins (and antigenic fragments thereof) of the subject invention.

[00148] One skilled in the art would readily recognize that toxins (and genes) of the subject invention can be obtained from a variety of sources. A toxin "from" or "obtainable from" the

subject DAS 1529 isolate and/or the *P. apiarius* isolate means that the toxin (or a similar toxin) can be obtained from this isolate or some other source, such as another bacterial strain or a transgenic plant. For example, one skilled in the art will readily recognize that, given the disclosure of a bacterial gene and toxin, a plant can be engineered to produce the toxin. Antibody preparations, nucleic acid probes (DNA and RNA), and the like may be prepared using the polynucleotide and/or amino acid sequences disclosed herein and used to screen and recover other toxin genes from other (natural) sources. Toxins of the subject invention can be obtained from a variety of sources/source microorganisms.

[00149] Polynucleotides and probes. The subject invention further provides nucleotide sequences that encode the toxins of the subject invention. The subject invention further provides methods of identifying and characterizing genes that encode pesticidal toxins. In one embodiment, the subject invention provides unique nucleotide sequences that are useful as hybridization probes and/or primers for PCR techniques. The primers produce characteristic gene fragments that can be used in the identification, characterization, and/or isolation of specific toxin genes. The nucleotide sequences of the subject invention encode toxins that are distinct from previously described toxins.

[00150] The polynucleotides of the subject invention can be used to form complete "genes" to encode proteins or peptides in a desired host cell. For example, as the skilled artisan would readily recognize, the subject polynucleotides can be appropriately placed under the control of a promoter in a host of interest, as is readily known in the art.

[00151] As the skilled artisan knows, DNA typically exists in a double-stranded form. In this arrangement, one strand is complementary to the other strand and vice versa. As DNA is replicated in a plant (for example), additional complementary strands of DNA are produced. The "coding strand" is often used in the art to refer to the strand that binds with the anti-sense strand. The mRNA is transcribed from the "anti-sense" strand of DNA. The "sense" or "coding" strand has a series of codons (a codon is three nucleotides that can be read as a three-residue unit to specify a particular amino acid) that can be read as an open reading frame (ORF) to form a protein or peptide of interest. In order to express a protein *in vivo*, a strand of DNA is typically transcribed into a complementary strand of mRNA which is used as the template for the protein. Thus, the subject invention includes the use of the exemplified polynucleotides shown in the attached sequence listing and/or equivalents including the complementary strands. RNA and

PNA (peptide nucleic acids) that are functionally equivalent to the exemplified DNA are included in the subject invention.

[00152] In one embodiment of the subject invention, bacterial isolates can be cultivated under conditions resulting in high multiplication of the microbe. After treating the microbe to provide single-stranded genomic nucleic acid, the DNA can be contacted with the primers of the invention and subjected to PCR amplification. Characteristic fragments of toxin-encoding genes will be amplified by the procedure, thus identifying the presence of the toxin-encoding gene(s).

[00153] Further aspects of the subject invention include genes and isolates identified using the methods and nucleotide sequences disclosed herein. The genes thus identified encode toxins active against pests.

[00154] Toxins and genes of the subject invention can be identified and obtained by using oligonucleotide probes, for example. These probes are detectable nucleotide sequences which may be detectable by virtue of an appropriate label or may be made inherently fluorescent as described in International Application No. WO/93/16094. The probes (and the polynucleotides of the subject invention) may be DNA, RNA, or PNA. In addition to adenine (A), cytosine (C), guanine (G), thymine (T), and uracil (U; for RNA molecules), synthetic probes (and polynucleotides) of the subject invention can also have inosine (a neutral base capable of pairing with all four bases; sometimes used in place of a mixture of all four bases in synthetic probes). Thus, where a synthetic, degenerate oligonucleotide is referred to herein, and "n" is used generically, "n" can be G, A, T, C, or inosine. Ambiguity codes as used herein are in accordance with standard IUPAC naming conventions as of the filing of the subject application (for example, R means A or G, Y means C or T, etc.).

[00155] As is well known in the art, if a probe molecule hybridizes with a nucleic acid sample, it can be reasonably assumed that the probe and sample have substantial homology/similarity/identity. Preferably, hybridization of the polynucleotide is first conducted followed by washes under conditions of low, moderate, or high stringency by techniques well-known in the art, as described in, for example, Keller, G.H., M.M. Manak (1987) *DNA Probes*, Stockton Press, New York, NY, pp. 169-170. For example, as stated therein, low stringency conditions can be achieved by first washing with 2x SSC (Standard Saline Citrate)/0.1% SDS (Sodium Dodecyl Sulfate) for 15 minutes at room temperature. Two washes are typically performed. Higher stringency can then be achieved by lowering the salt concentration and/or by

raising the temperature. For example, the wash described above can be followed by two washings with 0.1x SSC/0.1% SDS for 15 minutes each at room temperature followed by subsequent washes with 0.1x SSC/0.1% SDS for 30 minutes each at 55° C. These temperatures can be used with other hybridization and wash protocols set forth herein and as would be known to one skilled in the art (SSPE can be used as the salt instead of SSC, for example). The 2x SSC/0.1% SDS can be prepared by adding 50 ml of 20x SSC and 5 ml of 10% SDS to 445 ml of water. 20x SSC can be prepared by combining NaCl (175.3 g/0.150 M), sodium citrate (88.2 g/0.015 M), and water to 1 liter, followed by adjusting pH to 7.0 with 10 N NaOH. 10% SDS can be prepared by dissolving 10 g of SDS in 50 ml of autoclaved water, diluting to 100 ml, and aliquotting.

[00156] Detection of the probe provides a means for determining in a known manner whether hybridization has been maintained. Such a probe analysis provides a rapid method for identifying toxin-encoding genes of the subject invention. The nucleotide segments which are used as probes according to the invention can be synthesized using a DNA synthesizer and standard procedures. These nucleotide sequences can also be used as PCR primers to amplify genes of the subject invention.

[00157] Probes for use according to the subject invention can be derived from a variety of sources, such as any gene mentioned or suggested herein. For example, all or part of any of the following types of genes (coding and/or noncoding or complementary strands thereof) can be used according to the subject invention: tcaA, tcaB, tcaC, tcbA, tccA, tccB, tccC, tcdA, tcdB, xptA1, xptD1, xptB1, xptC1, xptA2, sepA, sepB, and sepC. Unless specifically indicated otherwise, reference to a "tccC" gene, for example, includes all specific alleles (such as tccC1 and tccC2) of this type of gene. The same is true for all the other genes (e.g., tcdB2, tccC3, and the alleles mentioned in Table 17).

[00158] Hybridization characteristics of a molecule can be used to define polynucleotides of the subject invention. Thus the subject invention includes polynucleotides (and/or their complements, preferably their full complements) that hybridize with a polynucleotide (or an oligonucleotide or primer) exemplified or suggested herein.

[00159] As used herein "stringent" conditions for hybridization refers to conditions which achieve the same, or about the same, degree of specificity of hybridization as the conditions employed by the current applicants. Specifically, hybridization of immobilized DNA on Southern blots with

³²P-labeled gene-specific probes was performed by standard methods (*see, e.g.*, Maniatis, T., E.F. Fritsch, J. Sambrook [1982] *Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual*, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Cold Spring Harbor, NY). In general, hybridization and subsequent washes were carried out under conditions that allowed for detection of target sequences. For double-stranded DNA gene probes, hybridization was carried out overnight at 20-25° C below the melting temperature (T_m) of the DNA hybrid in 6x SSPE, 5x Denhardt's solution, 0.1% SDS, 0.1 mg/ml denatured DNA. The melting temperature is described by the following formula (Beltz, G.A., K.A. Jacobs, T.H. Eickbush, P.T. Cherbas, and F.C. Kafatos [1983] *Methods of Enzymology*, R. Wu, L. Grossman and K. Moldave [eds.] Academic Press, New York 100:266-285):

$$T_m = 81.5^{\circ} \text{C} + 16.6 \text{ Log}[\text{Na}^+] + 0.41(\% \text{G+C}) - 0.61(\% \text{formamide}) - 600/\text{length of duplex in base pairs.}$$

[00160] Washes are typically carried out as follows:

- (1) Twice at room temperature for 15 minutes in 1x SSPE, 0.1% SDS (low stringency wash).
- (2) Once at T_m-20°C for 15 minutes in 0.2x SSPE, 0.1% SDS (moderate stringency wash).

[00161] For oligonucleotide probes, hybridization was carried out overnight at 10-20°C below the melting temperature (T_m) of the hybrid in 6x SSPE, 5x Denhardt's solution, 0.1% SDS, 0.1 mg/ml denatured DNA. T_m for oligonucleotide probes was determined by the following formula:

$$T_m (^{\circ} \text{C}) = 2(\text{number T/A base pairs}) + 4(\text{number G/C base pairs})$$

(Suggs, S.V., T. Miyake, E.H. Kawashime, M.J. Johnson, K. Itakura, and R.B. Wallace [1981] *ICN-UCLA Symp. Dev. Biol. Using Purified Genes*, D.D. Brown [ed.], Academic Press, New York, 23:683-693).

[00162] Washes were typically carried out as follows:

- (1) Twice at room temperature for 15 minutes 1x SSPE, 0.1% SDS (low stringency wash).
- (2) Once at the hybridization temperature for 15 minutes in 1x SSPE, 0.1% SDS (moderate stringency wash).

[00163] In general, salt and/or temperature can be altered to change stringency. With a labeled DNA fragment >70 or so bases in length, the following conditions can be used:

Low: 1 or 2x SSPE, room temperature
Low: 1 or 2x SSPE, 42° C
Moderate: 0.2x or 1x SSPE, 65° C
High: 0.1x SSPE, 65° C.

[00164] Duplex formation and stability depend on substantial complementarity between the two strands of a hybrid, and, as noted above, a certain degree of mismatch can be tolerated. Therefore, the probe sequences of the subject invention include mutations (both single and multiple), deletions, insertions of the described sequences, and combinations thereof, wherein said mutations, insertions and deletions permit formation of stable hybrids with the target polynucleotide of interest. Mutations, insertions, and deletions can be produced in a given polynucleotide sequence in many ways, and these methods are known to an ordinarily skilled artisan. Other methods may become known in the future.

[00165] PCR technology. Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) is a repetitive, enzymatic, primed synthesis of a nucleic acid sequence. This procedure is well-known and commonly used by those skilled in this art (*see* Mullis, U.S. Patent Nos. 4,683,195, 4,683,202, and 4,800,159; Saiki, Randall K., Stephen Scharf, Fred Faloona, Kary B. Mullis, Glenn T. Horn, Henry A. Erlich, Norman Arnheim [1985] "Enzymatic Amplification of β -Globin Genomic Sequences and Restriction Site Analysis for Diagnosis of Sickle Cell Anemia," *Science* 230:1350-1354). PCR is based on the enzymatic amplification of a DNA fragment of interest that is flanked by two oligonucleotide primers that hybridize to opposite strands of the target sequence. The primers are oriented with the 3' ends pointing towards each other. Repeated cycles of heat denaturation of the template, annealing of the primers to their complementary sequences, and extension of the annealed primers with a DNA polymerase result in the amplification of the segment defined by the 5' ends of the PCR primers. The extension product of each primer can serve as a template for the other primer, so each cycle essentially doubles the amount of DNA fragment produced in the previous cycle. This results in the exponential accumulation of the specific target fragment, up to several million-fold in a few hours. By using a thermostable DNA polymerase such as *Taq* polymerase, isolated from the thermophilic bacterium *Thermus aquaticus*, the amplification process can be completely automated. Other enzymes which can be used are known to those skilled in the art.

[00166] The DNA sequences of the subject invention can be used as primers for PCR

amplification. In performing PCR amplification, a certain degree of mismatch can be tolerated between primer and template. Therefore, mutations, deletions, and insertions (especially additions of nucleotides to the 5' end) of the exemplified primers fall within the scope of the subject invention. Mutations, insertions, and deletions can be produced in a given primer by methods known to an ordinarily skilled artisan.

[00167] Modification of genes and toxins. The genes and toxins useful according to the subject invention include not only the specifically exemplified full-length sequences, but also portions, segments and/or fragments (including internal and/or terminal deletions compared to the full-length molecules) of these sequences, variants, mutants, chimerics, and fusions thereof. For example, toxins of the subject invention may be used in the form of chimeric toxins produced by combining portions of two or more toxins/proteins.

[00168] Proteins of the subject invention can have substituted amino acids so long as they retain the characteristic pesticidal/ functional activity of the proteins specifically exemplified herein. "Variant" genes have nucleotide sequences that encode the same toxins or equivalent toxins having pesticidal activity equivalent to an exemplified protein. The terms "variant proteins" and "equivalent toxins" refer to toxins having the same or essentially the same biological/functional activity against the target pests and equivalent sequences as the exemplified toxins. As used herein, reference to an "equivalent" sequence refers to sequences having amino acid substitutions, deletions, additions, or insertions which improve or do not adversely affect pesticidal activity. Fragments retaining pesticidal activity are also included in this definition. Fragments and other equivalents that retain the same or similar function, or "toxin activity," of a corresponding fragment of an exemplified toxin are within the scope of the subject invention. Changes, such as amino acid substitutions or additions, can be made for a variety of purposes, such as increasing (or decreasing) protease stability of the protein (without materially/substantially decreasing the functional activity of the toxin).

[00169] Equivalent toxins and/or genes encoding these equivalent toxins can be obtained/derived from wild-type or recombinant bacteria and/or from other wild-type or recombinant organisms using the teachings provided herein. Other *Bacillus*, *Paenibacillus*, *Photorhabdus*, and *Xenorhabdus* species, for example, can be used as source isolates.

[00170] Variations of genes may be readily constructed using standard techniques for making point mutations, for example. In addition, U.S. Patent No. 5,605,793, for example, describes

methods for generating additional molecular diversity by using DNA reassembly after random fragmentation. Variant genes can be used to produce variant proteins; recombinant hosts can be used to produce the variant proteins. Using these "gene shuffling" techniques, equivalent genes and proteins can be constructed that comprise any 5, 10, or 20 contiguous residues (amino acid or nucleotide) of any sequence exemplified herein. As one skilled in the art knows, the gene shuffling techniques can be adjusted to obtain equivalents having, for example, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, or 500 or more contiguous residues

(amino acid or nucleotide), corresponding to a segment (of the same size) in any of the exemplified sequences (or the complements (full complements) thereof). Similarly sized segments, especially those for conserved regions, can also be used as probes and/or primers.

[00171] Fragments of full-length genes can be made using commercially available exonucleases or endonucleases according to standard procedures. For example, enzymes such as *Bal31* or site-directed mutagenesis can be used to systematically cut off nucleotides from the ends of these genes. Also, genes which encode active fragments may be obtained using a variety of restriction enzymes. Proteases may be used to directly obtain active fragments of these toxins.

[00172] It is within the scope of the invention as disclosed herein that toxins may be truncated and still retain functional activity. By "truncated toxin" is meant that a portion of a toxin protein may be cleaved and yet still exhibit activity after cleavage. Cleavage can be achieved by proteases inside or outside of the insect gut. Furthermore, effectively cleaved proteins can be produced using molecular biology techniques wherein the DNA bases encoding said toxin are removed either through digestion with restriction endonucleases or other techniques available to the skilled artisan. After truncation, said proteins can be expressed in heterologous systems such as *E. coli*, baculoviruses, plant-based viral systems, yeast and the like and then placed in insect assays as disclosed herein to determine activity. It is well-known in the art that truncated toxins can be successfully produced so that they retain functional activity while having less than the entire, full-length sequence. It is well known in the art that B.t. toxins can be used in a truncated (core toxin) form. See, e.g., Adang *et al.*, *Gene* 36:289-300 (1985), "Characterized full-length and truncated plasmid clones of the crystal protein of *Bacillus thuringiensis* subsp *kurstaki* HD-73 and their toxicity to *Manduca sexta*." There are other examples of truncated proteins that retain insecticidal activity, including the insect juvenile hormone esterase (U.S. Pat. No. 5,674,485 to the Regents of the University of California). As used herein, the term "toxin" is also meant to include functionally active truncations. On the other hand, a protoxin portion (typically the C-terminal half of a typical *B.t. Cry* toxin) can be added to form an active, full-length protein. See, e.g., U.S. Patent No. 6,218,188.

[00173] Certain toxins of the subject invention have been specifically exemplified herein. As these toxins are merely exemplary of the toxins of the subject invention, it should be readily apparent that the subject invention comprises variant or equivalent toxins (and nucleotide sequences coding for equivalent toxins) having the same or similar pesticidal activity of the

exemplified toxin. Equivalent toxins will have amino acid similarity (and/or homology) with an exemplified toxin. The amino acid identity will typically be greater than 60%, preferably greater than 75%, more preferably greater than 80%, even more preferably greater than 90%, and can be greater than 95%. Preferred polynucleotides and proteins of the subject invention can also be defined in terms of more particular identity and/or similarity ranges. For example, the identity and/or similarity can be 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, or 99% as compared to a sequence exemplified herein. Unless otherwise specified, as used herein percent sequence identity and/or similarity of two nucleic acids is determined using the algorithm of Karlin and Altschul (1990), *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 87:2264-2268, modified as in Karlin and Altschul (1993), *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 90:5873-5877. Such an algorithm is incorporated into the NBLAST and XBLAST programs of Altschul *et al.* (1990), *J. Mol. Biol.* 215:402-410. BLAST nucleotide searches are performed with the NBLAST program, score = 100, wordlength = 12. To obtain gapped alignments for comparison purposes, Gapped BLAST is used as described in Altschul *et al.* (1997), *Nucl. Acids Res.* 25:3389-3402. When utilizing BLAST and Gapped BLAST programs, the default parameters of the respective programs (NBLAST and XBLAST) are used. See NCBI/NIH website. The scores can also be calculated using the methods and algorithms of Crickmore *et al.* as described in the Background section, above.

[00174] The amino acid homology/similarity/identity will be highest in critical regions of the toxin which account for biological activity or are involved in the determination of three-dimensional configuration which is ultimately responsible for the biological activity. In this regard, certain amino acid substitutions are acceptable and can be expected to be tolerated. For example, these substitutions can be in regions of the protein that are not critical to activity. Analyzing the crystal structure of a protein, and software-based protein structure modeling, can be used to identify regions of a protein that can be modified (using site-directed mutagenesis, shuffling, etc.) to actually change the properties and/or increase the functionality of the protein.

[00175] Various properties and targeted 3D features of the protein can also be changed without adversely affecting the toxin activity/functionality of the protein. Conservative amino acid substitutions can be expected to be tolerated/to not adversely affect the three-dimensional configuration of the molecule. Amino acids can be placed in the following classes: non-polar,

uncharged polar, basic, and acidic. Conservative substitutions whereby an amino acid of one class is replaced with another amino acid of the same type fall within the scope of the subject invention so long as the substitution is not adverse to the biological activity of the compound. Table 1 provides a listing of examples of amino acids belonging to each class.

Table 1.	
Class of Amino Acid	Examples of Amino Acids
Nonpolar	Ala, Val, Leu, Ile, Pro, Met, Phe, Trp
Uncharged Polar	Gly, Ser, Thr, Cys, Tyr, Asn, Gln
Acidic	Asp, Glu
Basic	Lys, Arg, His

[00176] In some instances, non-conservative substitutions can also be made. The critical factor is that these substitutions must not significantly detract from the functional/biological activity of the toxin.

[00177] As used herein, reference to "isolated" polynucleotides and/or "purified" toxins refers to these molecules when they are not associated with the other molecules with which they would be found in nature. Thus, reference to "isolated" and/or "purified" signifies the involvement of the "hand of man" as described herein. For example, a bacterial toxin "gene" of the subject invention put into a plant for expression is an "isolated polynucleotide." Likewise, a *Paenibacillus* protein, exemplified herein, produced by a plant is an "isolated protein."

[00178] Because of the degeneracy/redundancy of the genetic code, a variety of different DNA sequences can encode the amino acid sequences disclosed herein. It is well within the skill of a person trained in the art to create alternative DNA sequences that encode the same, or essentially the same, toxins. These variant DNA sequences are within the scope of the subject invention.

[00179] Optimization of sequence for expression in plants. To obtain high expression of heterologous genes in plants it may be preferred to reengineer said genes so that they are more efficiently expressed in (the cytoplasm of) plant cells. Maize is one such plant where it may be preferred to re-design the heterologous gene(s) prior to transformation to increase the expression level thereof in said plant. Therefore, an additional step in the design of genes encoding a bacterial toxin is reengineering of a heterologous gene for optimal expression.

[00180] One reason for the reengineering of a bacterial toxin for expression in maize is due to the non-optimal G+C content of the native gene. For example, the very low G+C content of many native bacterial gene(s) (and consequent skewing towards high A+T content) results in the generation of sequences mimicking or duplicating plant gene control sequences that are known to be highly A+T rich. The presence of some A+T-rich sequences within the DNA of gene(s) introduced into plants (e.g., TATA box regions normally found in gene promoters) may result in aberrant transcription of the gene(s). On the other hand, the presence of other regulatory sequences residing in the transcribed mRNA (e.g., polyadenylation signal sequences (AAUAAA), or sequences complementary to small nuclear RNAs involved in pre-mRNA splicing) may lead to RNA instability. Therefore, one goal in the design of genes encoding a bacterial toxin for maize expression, more preferably referred to as plant optimized gene(s), is to generate a DNA sequence having a higher G+C content, and preferably one close to that of maize genes coding for metabolic enzymes. Another goal in the design of the plant optimized gene(s) encoding a bacterial toxin is to generate a DNA sequence in which the sequence modifications do not hinder translation.

[00181] The table below (Table 2) illustrates how high the G+C content is in maize. For the data in Table 2, coding regions of the genes were extracted from GenBank (Release 71) entries, and base compositions were calculated using the MacVectorTM program (Accelrys, Burlington, MA). Intron sequences were ignored in the calculations.

[00182] Due to the plasticity afforded by the redundancy/degeneracy of the genetic code (i.e., some amino acids are specified by more than one codon), evolution of the genomes in different organisms or classes of organisms has resulted in differential usage of redundant codons. This "codon bias" is reflected in the mean base composition of protein coding regions. For example, organisms with relatively low G+C contents utilize codons having A or T in the third position of redundant codons, whereas those having higher G+C contents utilize codons having G or C in the third position. It is thought that the presence of "minor" codons within a mRNA may reduce the absolute translation rate of that mRNA, especially when the relative abundance of the charged tRNA corresponding to the minor codon is low. An extension of this is that the diminution of translation rate by individual minor codons would be at least additive for multiple minor codons. Therefore, mRNAs having high relative contents of minor codons would have

correspondingly low translation rates. This rate would be reflected by subsequent low levels of the encoded protein.

[00183] In reengineering genes encoding a bacterial toxin for maize (or other plant, such as cotton or soybean) expression, the codon bias of the plant has been determined. The codon bias for maize is the statistical codon distribution that the plant uses for coding its proteins and the preferred codon usage is shown in Table 3. After determining the bias, the percent frequency of the codons in the gene(s) of interest is determined. The primary codons preferred by the plant should be determined as well as the second and third choice of preferred codons. Afterwards, the amino acid sequence of the bacterial toxin of interest is reverse translated so that the resulting nucleic acid sequence codes for exactly the same protein as the native gene wanting to be heterologously expressed. The new DNA sequence is designed using codon bias information so that it corresponds to the most preferred codons of the desired plant. The new sequence is then analyzed for restriction enzyme sites that might have been created by the modification. The identified sites are further modified by replacing the codons with second or third choice preferred codons. Other sites in the sequence which could affect transcription or translation of the gene of interest are the exon:intron junctions (5' or 3'), poly A addition signals, or RNA polymerase termination signals. The sequence is further analyzed and modified to reduce the frequency of TA or GC doublets. In addition to the doublets, G or C sequence blocks that have more than about four residues that are the same can affect transcription of the sequence. Therefore, these blocks are also modified by replacing the codons of first or second choice, etc. with the next preferred codon of choice.

Table 2		
Compilation of G + C contents of protein coding regions of maize genes		
Protein Class.sup.a	Range % G + C	Mean % G + C.sup.b
Metabolic Enzymes (76)	44.4-75.3	59.0 (.+-.8.0)
Structural Proteins (18)	48.6-70.5	63.6 (.+-.6.7)
Regulatory Proteins (5)	57.2-68.8	62.0 (.+-.4.9)
Uncharacterized Proteins (9)	41.5-70.3	64.3 (.+-.7.2)
All Proteins (108)	44.4-75.3	60.8 (.+-.5.2)

.sup.a Number of genes in class given in parentheses.

.sup.b Standard deviations given in parentheses.

.sup.c Combined groups mean ignored in mean calculation

[00184] It is preferred that the plant optimized gene(s) encoding a bacterial toxin contain about

63% of first choice codons, between about 22% to about 37% second choice codons, and between about 15% to about 0% third choice codons, wherein the total percentage is 100%. Most preferred the plant optimized gene(s) contains about 63% of first choice codons, at least about 22% second choice codons, about 7.5% third choice codons, and about 7.5% fourth choice codons, wherein the total percentage is 100%. The preferred codon usage for engineering genes for maize expression are shown in Table 3. The method described above enables one skilled in the art to modify gene(s) that are foreign to a particular plant so that the genes are optimally expressed in plants. The method is further illustrated in PCT application WO 97/13402.

[00185] In order to design plant optimized genes encoding a bacterial toxin, the amino acid sequence of said protein is reverse translated into a DNA sequence utilizing a non-redundant genetic code established from a codon bias table compiled for the gene sequences for the particular plant, as shown in Table 2. The resulting DNA sequence, which is completely homogeneous in codon usage, is further modified to establish a DNA sequence that, besides having a higher degree of codon diversity, also contains strategically placed restriction enzyme recognition sites, desirable base composition, and a lack of sequences that might interfere with transcription of the gene, or translation of the product mRNA.

Table 3.	
Preferred amino acid codons for proteins expressed in maize	
Amino Acid	Codon*
Alanine	GCC/GCG
Cysteine	TGC/TGT
Aspartic Acid	GAC/GAT
Glutamic Acid	GAG/GAA
Phenylalanine	TTC/TTT
Glycine	GGC/GGG
Histidine	CAC/CAT
Isoleucine	ATC/ATT
Lysine	AAG/AAA
Leucine	CTG/CTC
Methionine	ATG
Asparagine	AAC/AAT
Proline	CCG/CCA
Glutamine	CAG/CAA
Arginine	AGG/CGC
Serine	AGC/TCC
Threonine	ACC/ACG
Valine	GTG/GTC
Tryptophan	TGG
Tyrosine	TAC/TAT
Stop	TGA/TAG

*The first and second preferred codons for maize.

[00186] Thus, synthetic genes that are functionally equivalent to the toxins/genes of the subject invention can be used to transform hosts, including plants. Additional guidance regarding the production of synthetic genes can be found in, for example, U.S. Patent No. 5,380,831.

[00187] In some cases, especially for expression in plants, it can be advantageous to use truncated genes that express truncated proteins. Höfte *et al.* 1989, for example, discussed in the Background Section above, discussed protoxin and core toxin segments of *B.t.* toxins. Preferred truncated genes will typically encode 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, or 99% of the full-length toxin.

[00188] Transgenic hosts. The toxin-encoding genes of the subject invention can be introduced into a wide variety of microbial or plant hosts. In preferred embodiments, transgenic plant cells and plants are used. Preferred plants (and plant cells) are corn, maize, and cotton.

[00189] In preferred embodiments, expression of the toxin gene results, directly or indirectly, in

the intracellular production (and maintenance) of the pesticide proteins. Plants can be rendered insect-resistant in this manner. When transgenic/recombinant/transformed/transfected host cells (or contents thereof) are ingested by the pests, the pests will ingest the toxin. This is the preferred manner in which to cause contact of the pest with the toxin. The result is control (killing or making sick) of the pest. Sucking pests can also be controlled in a similar manner. Alternatively, suitable microbial hosts, e.g., *Pseudomonas* such as *P. fluorescens*, can be applied where target pests are present; the microbes can proliferate there, and are ingested by the target pests. The microbe hosting the toxin gene can be treated under conditions that prolong the activity of the toxin and stabilize the cell. The treated cell, which retains the toxic activity, can then be applied to the environment of the target pest.

[00190] Where the toxin gene is introduced via a suitable vector into a microbial host, and said host is applied to the environment in a living state, certain host microbes should be used. Microorganism hosts are selected which are known to occupy the "phytosphere" (phylloplane, phyllosphere, rhizosphere, and/or rhizoplane) of one or more crops of interest. These microorganisms are selected so as to be capable of successfully competing in the particular environment (crop and other insect habitats) with the wild-type microorganisms, provide for stable maintenance and expression of the gene expressing the polypeptide pesticide, and, desirably, provide for improved protection of the pesticide from environmental degradation and inactivation.

[00191] A large number of microorganisms are known to inhabit the phylloplane (the surface of the plant leaves) and/or the rhizosphere (the soil surrounding plant roots) of a wide variety of important crops. These microorganisms include bacteria, algae, and fungi. Of particular interest are microorganisms, such as bacteria, e.g., genera *Pseudomonas*, *Erwinia*, *Serratia*, *Klebsiella*, *Xanthomonas*, *Streptomyces*, *Rhizobium*, *Rhodopseudomonas*, *Methylophilus*, *Agrobacterium*, *Acetobacter*, *Lactobacillus*, *Arthrobacter*, *Azotobacter*, *Leuconostoc*, and *Alcaligenes*; fungi, particularly yeast, e.g., genera *Saccharomyces*, *Cryptococcus*, *Kluyveromyces*, *Sporobolomyces*, *Rhodotorula*, and *Aureobasidium*. Of particular interest are such phytosphere bacterial species as *Pseudomonas syringae*, *Pseudomonas fluorescens*, *Serratia marcescens*, *Acetobacter xylinum*, *Agrobacterium tumefaciens*, *Rhodopseudomonas spheroides*, *Xanthomonas campestris*, *Rhizobium melioli*, *Alcaligenes entrophus*, and *Azotobacter vinlandii*; and phytosphere yeast species such as *Rhodotorula rubra*, *R. glutinis*, *R. marina*, *R. aurantiaca*, *Cryptococcus albidus*,

C. diffluens, *C. laurentii*, *Saccharomyces rosei*, *S. pretoriensis*, *S. cerevisiae*, *Sporobolomyces roseus*, *S. odoratus*, *Kluyveromyces veronae*, and *Aureobasidium pullulans*. Also of interest are pigmented microorganisms.

[00192] Insertion of genes to form transgenic hosts. One aspect of the subject invention is the transformation/transfection of plants, plant cells, and other host cells with polynucleotides of the subject invention that express proteins of the subject invention. Plants transformed in this manner can be rendered resistant to attack by the target pest(s).

[00193] A wide variety of methods are available for introducing a gene encoding a pesticidal protein into the target host under conditions that allow for stable maintenance and expression of the gene. These methods are well known to those skilled in the art and are described, for example, in United States Patent No. 5,135,867.

[00194] For example, a large number of cloning vectors comprising a replication system in *E. coli* and a marker that permits selection of the transformed cells are available for preparation for the insertion of foreign genes into higher plants. The vectors comprise, for example, pBR322, pUC series, M13mp series, pACYC184, etc. Accordingly, the sequence encoding the toxin can be inserted into the vector at a suitable restriction site. The resulting plasmid is used for transformation into *E. coli*. The *E. coli* cells are cultivated in a suitable nutrient medium, then harvested and lysed. The plasmid is recovered. Sequence analysis, restriction analysis, electrophoresis, and other biochemical-molecular biological methods are generally carried out as methods of analysis. After each manipulation, the DNA sequence used can be cleaved and joined to the next DNA sequence. Each plasmid sequence can be cloned in the same or other plasmids. Depending on the method of inserting desired genes into the plant, other DNA sequences may be necessary. If, for example, the Ti or Ri plasmid is used for the transformation of the plant cell, then at least the right border, but often the right and the left border of the Ti or Ri plasmid T-DNA, has to be joined as the flanking region of the genes to be inserted. The use of T-DNA for the transformation of plant cells has been intensively researched and described in EP 120 516; Hoekema (1985) In: *The Binary Plant Vector System*, Offset-drukkerij Kanters B.V., Alblasterdam, Chapter 5; Fraley *et al.*, *Crit. Rev. Plant Sci.* 4:1-46; and An *et al.* (1985) *EMBO J.* 4:277-287.

[00195] A large number of techniques are available for inserting DNA into a plant host cell. Those techniques include transformation with T-DNA using *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* or

Agrobacterium rhizogenes as transformation agent, fusion, injection, biolistics (microparticle bombardment), or electroporation as well as other possible methods. If *Agrobacteria* are used for the transformation, the DNA to be inserted has to be cloned into special plasmids, namely either into an intermediate vector or into a binary vector. The intermediate vectors can be integrated into the Ti or Ri plasmid by homologous recombination owing to sequences that are homologous to sequences in the T-DNA. The Ti or Ri plasmid also comprises the vir region necessary for the transfer of the T-DNA. Intermediate vectors cannot replicate themselves in *Agrobacteria*. The intermediate vector can be transferred into *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* by means of a helper plasmid (conjugation). Binary vectors can replicate themselves both in *E. coli* and in *Agrobacteria*. They comprise a selection marker gene and a linker or polylinker which are framed by the right and left T-DNA border regions. They can be transformed directly into *Agrobacteria* (Holsters *et al.* [1978] *Mol. Gen. Genet.* 163:181-187). The *Agrobacterium* used as host cell is to comprise a plasmid carrying a vir region. The vir region is necessary for the transfer of the T-DNA into the plant cell. Additional T-DNA may be contained. The bacterium so transformed is used for the transformation of plant cells. Plant explants can advantageously be cultivated with *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* or *Agrobacterium rhizogenes* for the transfer of the DNA into the plant cell. Whole plants can then be regenerated from the infected plant material (for example, pieces of leaf, segments of stalk, roots, but also protoplasts or suspension-cultivated cells) in a suitable medium, which may contain antibiotics or biocides for selection. The plants so obtained can then be tested for the presence of the inserted DNA. No special demands are made of the plasmids in the case of injection and electroporation. It is possible to use ordinary plasmids, such as, for example, pUC derivatives.

[00196] The transformed cells grow inside the plants in the usual manner. They can form germ cells and transmit the transformed trait(s) to progeny plants. Such plants can be grown in the normal manner and crossed with plants that have the same transformed hereditary factors or other hereditary factors. The resulting hybrid individuals have the corresponding phenotypic properties.

[00197] In some preferred embodiments of the invention, genes encoding the bacterial toxin are expressed from transcriptional units inserted into the plant genome. Preferably, said transcriptional units are recombinant vectors capable of stable integration into the plant genome and enable selection of transformed plant lines expressing mRNA encoding the proteins.

[00198] Once the inserted DNA has been integrated in the genome, it is relatively stable there (and does not come out again). It normally contains a selection marker that confers on the transformed plant cells resistance to a biocide or an antibiotic, such as kanamycin, G418, bleomycin, hygromycin, or chloramphenicol, *inter alia*. The individually employed marker should accordingly permit the selection of transformed cells rather than cells that do not contain the inserted DNA. The gene(s) of interest are preferably expressed either by constitutive or inducible promoters in the plant cell. Once expressed, the mRNA is translated into proteins, thereby incorporating amino acids of interest into protein. The genes encoding a toxin expressed in the plant cells can be under the control of a constitutive promoter, a tissue-specific promoter, or an inducible promoter.

[00199] Several techniques exist for introducing foreign recombinant vectors into plant cells, and for obtaining plants that stably maintain and express the introduced gene. Such techniques include the introduction of genetic material coated onto microparticles directly into cells (U.S. Pat. Nos. 4,945,050 to Cornell and 5,141,131 to DowElanco, now Dow AgroSciences, LLC). In addition, plants may be transformed using *Agrobacterium* technology, *see* U.S. Pat. No. 5,177,010 to University of Toledo; 5,104,310 to Texas A&M; European Patent Application 0131624B1; European Patent Applications 120516, 159418B1 and 176,112 to Schilperoot; U.S. Pat. Nos. 5,149,645, 5,469,976, 5,464,763 and 4,940,838 and 4,693,976 to Schilperoot; European Patent Applications 116718, 290799, 320500 all to Max Planck; European Patent Applications 604662 and 627752, and U.S. Pat. No. 5,591,616, to Japan Tobacco; European Patent Applications 0267159 and 0292435, and U.S. Pat. No. 5,231,019, all to Ciba Geigy, now Novartis; U.S. Pat. Nos. 5,463,174 and 4,762,785, both to Calgene; and U.S. Pat. Nos. 5,004,863 and 5,159,135, both to Agracetus. Other transformation technology includes whiskers technology. *See* U.S. Pat. Nos. 5,302,523 and 5,464,765, both to Zeneca. Electroporation technology has also been used to transform plants. *See* WO 87/06614 to Boyce Thompson Institute; U.S. Pat. Nos. 5,472,869 and 5,384,253, both to Dekalb; and WO 92/09696 and WO 93/21335, both to Plant Genetic Systems. Furthermore, viral vectors can also be used to produce transgenic plants expressing the protein of interest. For example, monocotyledonous plant can be transformed with a viral vector using the methods described in U.S. Pat. Nos. 5,569,597 to Mycogen Plant Science and Ciba-Giegy, now Novartis, as well as U.S. Pat. Nos. 5,589,367 and 5,316,931, both to Biosource.

[00200] As mentioned previously, the manner in which the DNA construct is introduced into the plant host is not critical to this invention. Any method which provides for efficient transformation may be employed. For example, various methods for plant cell transformation are described herein and include the use of Ti or Ri-plasmids and the like to perform *Agrobacterium* mediated transformation. In many instances, it will be desirable to have the construct used for transformation bordered on one or both sides by T-DNA borders, more specifically the right border. This is particularly useful when the construct uses *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* or *Agrobacterium rhizogenes* as a mode for transformation, although T-DNA borders may find use with other modes of transformation. Where *Agrobacterium* is used for plant cell transformation, a vector may be used which may be introduced into the host for homologous recombination with T-DNA or the Ti or Ri plasmid present in the host. Introduction of the vector may be performed via electroporation, tri-parental mating and other techniques for transforming gram-negative bacteria which are known to those skilled in the art. The manner of vector transformation into the *Agrobacterium* host is not critical to this invention. The Ti or Ri plasmid containing the T-DNA for recombination may be capable or incapable of causing gall formation, and is not critical to said invention so long as the vir genes are present in said host.

[00201] In some cases where *Agrobacterium* is used for transformation, the expression construct being within the T-DNA borders will be inserted into a broad spectrum vector such as pRK2 or derivatives thereof as described in Ditta *et al.*, (PNAS USA (1980) 77:7347-7351 and EPO 0 120 515, which are incorporated herein by reference. Included within the expression construct and the T-DNA will be one or more markers as described herein which allow for selection of transformed *Agrobacterium* and transformed plant cells. The particular marker employed is not essential to this invention, with the preferred marker depending on the host and construction used.

[00202] For transformation of plant cells using *Agrobacterium*, explants may be combined and incubated with the transformed *Agrobacterium* for sufficient time to allow transformation thereof. After transformation, the *Agrobacteria* are killed by selection with the appropriate antibiotic and plant cells are cultured with the appropriate selective medium. Once calli are formed, shoot formation can be encouraged by employing the appropriate plant hormones according to methods well known in the art of plant tissue culturing and plant regeneration. However, a callus intermediate stage is not always necessary. After shoot formation, said plant cells can be transferred to medium which encourages root formation thereby completing plant

regeneration. The plants may then be grown to seed and said seed can be used to establish future generations. Regardless of transformation technique, the gene encoding a bacterial toxin is preferably incorporated into a gene transfer vector adapted to express said gene in a plant cell by including in the vector a plant promoter regulatory element, as well as 3' non-translated transcriptional termination regions such as Nos and the like.

[00203] In addition to numerous technologies for transforming plants, the type of tissue which is contacted with the foreign genes may vary as well. Such tissue would include but would not be limited to embryogenic tissue, callus tissue types I, II, and III, hypocotyl, meristem, root tissue, tissues for expression in phloem, and the like. Almost all plant tissues may be transformed during dedifferentiation using appropriate techniques described herein.

[00204] As mentioned above, a variety of selectable markers can be used, if desired. Preference for a particular marker is at the discretion of the artisan, but any of the following selectable markers may be used along with any other gene not listed herein which could function as a selectable marker. Such selectable markers include but are not limited to aminoglycoside phosphotransferase gene of transposon Tn5 (Aph II) which encodes resistance to the antibiotics kanamycin, neomycin and G418, as well as those genes which encode for resistance or tolerance to glyphosate; hygromycin; methotrexate; phosphinothricin (bialaphos); imidazolinones, sulfonylureas and triazolopyrimidine herbicides, such as chlorsulfuron; bromoxynil, dalapon and the like.

[00205] In addition to a selectable marker, it may be desirable to use a reporter gene. In some instances a reporter gene may be used with or without a selectable marker. Reporter genes are genes that are typically not present in the recipient organism or tissue and typically encode for proteins resulting in some phenotypic change or enzymatic property. Examples of such genes are provided in K. Wising *et al.* Ann. Rev. Genetics, 22, 421 (1988). Preferred reporter genes include the beta-glucuronidase (GUS) of the *uidA* locus of *E. coli*, the chloramphenicol acetyl transferase gene from Tn9 of *E. coli*, the green fluorescent protein from the bioluminescent jellyfish *Aequorea victoria*, and the luciferase genes from firefly *Photinus pyralis*. An assay for detecting reporter gene expression may then be performed at a suitable time after said gene has been introduced into recipient cells. A preferred such assay entails the use of the gene encoding beta-glucuronidase (GUS) of the *uidA* locus of *E. coli* as described by Jefferson *et al.*, (1987 Biochem. Soc. Trans. 15, 17-19) to identify transformed cells.

[00206] In addition to plant promoter regulatory elements, promoter regulatory elements from a variety of sources can be used efficiently in plant cells to express foreign genes. For example, promoter regulatory elements of bacterial origin, such as the octopine synthase promoter, the nopaline synthase promoter, the mannopine synthase promoter; promoters of viral origin, such as the cauliflower mosaic virus (35S and 19S), 35T (which is a re-engineered 35S promoter, *see* U.S. Pat. No. 6,166,302, especially Example 7E) and the like may be used. Plant promoter regulatory elements include but are not limited to ribulose-1,6-bisphosphate (RUBP) carboxylase small subunit (ssu), beta-conglycinin promoter, beta-phaseolin promoter, ADH promoter, heat-shock promoters, and tissue specific promoters. Other elements such as matrix attachment regions, scaffold attachment regions, introns, enhancers, polyadenylation sequences and the like may be present and thus may improve the transcription efficiency or DNA integration. Such elements may or may not be necessary for DNA function, although they can provide better expression or functioning of the DNA by affecting transcription, mRNA stability, and the like. Such elements may be included in the DNA as desired to obtain optimal performance of the transformed DNA in the plant. Typical elements include but are not limited to Adh-intron 1, Adh-intron 6, the alfalfa mosaic virus coat protein leader sequence, the maize streak virus coat protein leader sequence, as well as others available to a skilled artisan. Constitutive promoter regulatory elements may also be used thereby directing continuous gene expression in all cells types and at all times (*e.g.*, actin, ubiquitin, CaMV 35S, and the like). Tissue specific promoter regulatory elements are responsible for gene expression in specific cell or tissue types, such as the leaves or seeds (*e.g.*, zein, oleosin, napin, ACP, globulin and the like) and these may also be used.

[00207] Promoter regulatory elements may also be active during a certain stage of the plant's development as well as active in plant tissues and organs. Examples of such include but are not limited to pollen-specific, embryo-specific, corn-silk-specific, cotton-fiber-specific, root-specific, seed-endosperm-specific promoter regulatory elements and the like. Under certain circumstances it may be desirable to use an inducible promoter regulatory element, which is responsible for expression of genes in response to a specific signal, such as: physical stimulus (heat shock genes), light (RUBP carboxylase), hormone (Em), metabolites, chemical, and stress. Other desirable transcription and translation elements that function in plants may be used. Numerous plant-specific gene transfer vectors are known in the art.

[00208] Standard molecular biology techniques may be used to clone and sequence the toxins described herein. Additional information may be found in Sambrook, J., Fritsch, E. F., and Maniatis, T. (1989), *Molecular Cloning, A Laboratory Manual*, Cold Spring Harbor Press, which is incorporated herein by reference.

[00209] Resistance Management. With increasing commercial use of insecticidal proteins in transgenic plants, one consideration is resistance management. That is, there are numerous companies using *Bacillus thuringiensis* toxins in their products, and there is concern about insects developing resistance to *B.t.* toxins. One strategy for insect resistance management would be to combine the TC toxins produced by *Xenorhabdus*, *Photorhabdus*, and the like with toxins such as *B.t.*, crystal toxins, soluble insecticidal proteins from *Bacillus* strains (see, e.g., WO 98/18932 and WO 99/57282), or other insect toxins. The combinations could be formulated for a sprayable application or could be molecular combinations. Plants could be transformed with bacterial genes that produce two or more different insect toxins (see, e.g., Gould, 38 *Bioscience* 26-33 (1988) and U.S. Patent No. 5,500,365; likewise, European Patent Application 0 400 246 A1 and U.S. Patents 5,866,784; 5,908,970; and 6,172,281 also describe transformation of a plant with two *B.t.* crystal toxins). Another method of producing a transgenic plant that contains more than one insect resistant gene would be to first produce two plants, with each plant containing an insect resistance gene. These plants could then be crossed using traditional plant breeding techniques to produce a plant containing more than one insect resistance gene. Thus, it should be apparent that the phrase "comprising a polynucleotide" as used herein means at least one polynucleotide (and possibly more, contiguous or not) unless specifically indicated otherwise.

[00210] Formulations and Other Delivery Systems. Formulated bait granules containing spores and/or crystals of the subject *Paenibacillus* isolate, or recombinant microbes comprising the genes obtainable from the isolate disclosed herein, can be applied to the soil. Formulated product can also be applied as a seed-coating or root treatment or total plant treatment at later stages of the crop cycle. Plant and soil treatments of cells may be employed as wettable powders, granules or dusts, by mixing with various inert materials, such as inorganic minerals (phyllosilicates, carbonates, sulfates, phosphates, and the like) or botanical materials (powdered corncobs, rice hulls, walnut shells, and the like). The formulations may include spreader-sticker adjuvants, stabilizing agents, other pesticidal additives, or surfactants. Liquid formulations may be aqueous-based or non-aqueous and employed as foams, gels, suspensions, emulsifiable concentrates, or

the like. The ingredients may include rheological agents, surfactants, emulsifiers, dispersants, or polymers.

[00211] As would be appreciated by a person skilled in the art, the pesticidal concentration will vary widely depending upon the nature of the particular formulation, particularly whether it is a concentrate or to be used directly. The pesticide will be present in at least 1% by weight and may be 100% by weight. The dry formulations will have from about 1-95% by weight of the pesticide while the liquid formulations will generally be from about 1-60% by weight of the solids in the liquid phase. The formulations will generally have from about 10^2 to about 10^4 cells/mg. These formulations will be administered at about 50 mg (liquid or dry) to 1 kg or more per hectare.

[00212] The formulations can be applied to the environment of the pest, *e.g.*, soil and foliage, by spraying, dusting, sprinkling, or the like.

[00213] Another delivery scheme is the incorporation of the genetic material of toxins into a baculovirus vector. Baculoviruses infect particular insect hosts, including those desirably targeted with the toxins. Infectious baculovirus harboring an expression construct for the toxins could be introduced into areas of insect infestation to thereby intoxicate or poison infected insects.

[00214] Insect viruses, or baculoviruses, are known to infect and adversely affect certain insects. The affect of the viruses on insects is slow, and viruses do not immediately stop the feeding of insects. Thus, viruses are not viewed as being optimal as insect pest control agents. However, combining the toxin genes into a baculovirus vector could provide an efficient way of transmitting the toxins. In addition, since different baculoviruses are specific to different insects, it may be possible to use a particular toxin to selectively target particularly damaging insect pests. A particularly useful vector for the toxins genes is the nuclear polyhedrosis virus. Transfer vectors using this virus have been described and are now the vectors of choice for transferring foreign genes into insects. The virus-toxin gene recombinant may be constructed in an orally transmissible form. Baculoviruses normally infect insect victims through the mid-gut intestinal mucosa. The toxin gene inserted behind a strong viral coat protein promoter would be expressed and should rapidly kill the infected insect.

[00215] In addition to an insect virus or baculovirus or transgenic plant delivery system for the protein toxins of the present invention, the proteins may be encapsulated using *Bacillus thuringiensis* encapsulation technology such as but not limited to U.S. Pat. Nos. 4,695,455;

4,695,462; 4,861,595 which are all incorporated herein by reference. Another delivery system for the protein toxins of the present invention is formulation of the protein into a bait matrix, which could then be used in above and below ground insect bait stations. Examples of such technology include but are not limited to PCT Patent Application WO 93/23998, which is incorporated herein by reference.

[00216] Plant RNA viral based systems can also be used to express bacterial toxin. In so doing, the gene encoding a toxin can be inserted into the coat promoter region of a suitable plant virus which will infect the host plant of interest. The toxin can then be expressed thus providing protection of the plant from insect damage. Plant RNA viral based systems are described in U.S. Pat. Nos. 5,500,360 to Mycogen Plant Sciences, Inc. and U.S. Pat. Nos. 5,316,931 and 5,589,367 to Biosource Genetics Corp.

[00217] In addition to producing a transformed plant, there are other delivery systems where it may be desirable to reengineer the bacterial gene(s). For example, a protein toxin can be constructed by fusing together a molecule attractive to insects as a food source with a toxin. After purification in the laboratory such a toxic agent with "built-in" bait could be packaged inside standard insect trap housings.

[00218] Mutants. Mutants of the DAS1529 and DB482 isolates of the invention can be made by procedures that are well known in the art. For example, an asporogenous mutant can be obtained through ethylmethane sulfonate (EMS) mutagenesis of an isolate. The mutants can be made using ultraviolet light and nitrosoguanidine by procedures well known in the art.

[00219] All patents, patent applications, provisional applications, and publications referred to or cited herein are incorporated by reference in their entirety to the extent they are not inconsistent with the explicit teachings of this specification.

[00220] Following are examples that illustrate procedures for practicing the invention. These examples should not be construed as limiting. All percentages are by weight and all solvent mixture proportions are by volume unless otherwise noted.

Example 1 – Isolation and Discovery of Insecticidal Activity of DAS1529 as a *Paenibacillus* sp.

[00221] A bacterial strain, designated DAS1529, was found to produce factors that were growth

inhibitory to neonates of lepidopteran insects, corn earworm (*Heliothis zea*; CEW), tobacco budworm (*Heliothis virescens*; TBW), and tobacco hornworm (*Manduca sexta*; THW).

[00222] DAS1529 was cultured in 2% Protease Peptone No. 3 (PP3) medium (Difco Laboratories, Detroit, MI) supplemented with 1.25% NaCl or in JB medium supplemented with 0.2% glucose. Bacterial culture was grown at 25° C for ~40 hours at 150 rpm.

[00223] The insecticidally active factors were initially found in the fermentation broth that was concentrated on 5 kDa molecular weight cutoff filters. Those factors were heat labile (inactivated by heating at 85° C for 20 minutes). These data indicated that the factors were proteinaceous. See also end of Example 4.

[00224] To identify active factors in cell pellets, the bacterial culture was centrifuged at 8000 rpm at 4° C for 15 minutes, washed once with sterile distilled water, and resuspended to 33X of the original culture volume in sterile distilled water, and subjected to insect bioassay as described below in Example 3. The bioassay data for DAS1529 strain is summarized in Table 4. The data showed that the culture broth and concentrated DAS1529 bacterial cells conferred good activity against CEW (30 to 50% mortality at 33X) and TBW (100% mortality at 33X). Those toxin factors in DAS1529 have significant relevance to the development of commercial transgenic products targeting lepidopteran insects (e.g. CEW and TBW) in corn and cotton.

Table 4			
Bioassay of DAS 1529 Strain			
Insects	TBW	CEW	Grubs
Broth Activity	+++	+++	n.d.
Pellet Activity	+++	++	-

*n.d. - not determined; -, ++, +++, no, moderate and high activity, respectively

Example 2 – Classification of DAS 1529

[00225] Molecular phylogeny was performed to determine the taxonomic affiliation of strain DAS1529. The nucleotide sequence of the 16S rDNA of DAS 1529 was determined and used for similarity and phylogenetic analyses (using the MicroSeq Kit from ABI). The sequence is provided as SEQ ID NO:16. BLAST search results are as follows:

value	Core	E
gi 15395282 emb AJ320490.1 PTH320490 Paenibacillus thiamino...	(bits)	
0.0	2906	

51

gi 3328014 gb AF071859.1 AF071859 0.0	Paenibacillus popilliae s...	2834
gi 3328015 gb AF071860.1 AF071860 0.0	Paenibacillus popilliae s...	2815
gi 2769591 emb Y16129.1 PS16SC168 0.0	Paenibacillus sp. C-168 1...	2699
gi 2769590 emb Y16128.1 PS16ST168 0.0	Paenibacillus sp. T-168 1...	2509
gi 2077917 dbj D78475.1 D78475 0.0	Paenibacillus thiaminolyticu...	2503
gi 3328016 gb AF071861.1 AF071861 0.0	Paenibacillus lentimorbus...	2493
gi 2895560 gb AF039408.1 0.0	Bacillus tipchiralis 16S ribosoma...	2493
gi 2077936 dbj D88513.1 D88513 0.0	Paenibacillus thiaminolyticu...	2493
gi 15395283 emb AJ320491.1 PAL320491 0.0	Paenibacillus alvei pa...	2404

[00226] These same top scoring sequences from the BLAST search were also compared using the Gap routine (Needleman and Wunsch, J. Mol. Biol. 48; 443-453 (1970)) from GCG version 10.2, with the following results:

%Sim		%Ident
gi 15395282 emb AJ320490.1 PTH320490 99.6	Paenibacillus thiamino...	99.2 99.6
gi 3328014 gb AF071859.1 AF071859 99.3	Paenibacillus popilliae s...	99.2
gi 3328015 gb AF071860.1 AF071860 97.3	Paenibacillus popilliae s...	99.2
gi 2769591 emb Y16129.1 PS16SC168 97.4	Paenibacillus sp. C-168 1...	97.1
gi 2769590 emb Y16128.1 PS16ST168 98.1	Paenibacillus sp. T-168 1...	97.4
gi 2077917 dbj D78475.1 D78475 98.9	Paenibacillus thiaminolyticu...	96.5
gi 3328016 gb AF071861.1 AF071861 96.9	Paenibacillus lentimorbus...	98.8
gi 2895560 gb AF039408.1 98.7	Bacillus tipchiralis 16S ribosoma...	96.0
gi 2077936 dbj D88513.1 D88513 95.3	Paenibacillus thiaminolyticu...	96.7
gi 15395283 emb AJ320491.1 PAL320491 95.3	Paenibacillus alvei pa...	95.2

[*Ident, matches of unambiguous bases; %Sim, %Ident plus potentially matching ambiguous bases]

[00227] A number of related sequences, including the top scoring sequences noted above, were also trimmed and aligned as described by Shida *et al.* (*Int. J. Syst. Bacteriol.* 47:289-298, 1997), using the sequence alignment program CLUSTAL W (Thompson, J.D., D. G. Higgins, and T.J.

Gibson, *Nucleic Acids Res.* 22:4673-4680, 1994). The results clearly place DAS1529 in the *Paenibacillus popilliae*/*Paenibacillus lentimorbus* subcluster of the genus *Paenibacillus* identified by Pettersson *et al.* (*Int. J. Syst. Bacteriol.* 49:531-540, 1999), and are consistent with the analyses reported above. This subcluster includes the insect-associated species *P. popilliae* and *P. lentimorbus*, as well as *P. thiaminolyticus*, *Paenibacillus* sp. T-168 and C-168, and "*Bacillus tipchiralis*," which are not known to have an insect association (Pettersson *et al.*, 1999). As noted by Wayne *et al.* (*Int. J. Syst. Bacteriol.* 37:463-464, 1987) and Vandamme *et al.* (*Microbiol. Rev.* 60:407-438), rDNA sequences that are greater than 97% identical cannot generally be used to assign a bacterial strain to a particular species in the absence of additional information. In the case of DAS1529, insecticidal activity on lepidoptera and evidence of a thiaminase are not consistent with known *P. popilliae* and *P. lentimorbus*, and the insect association is not consistent with known *P. thiaminolyticus* (as well as the other subcluster species).

[00228] As other *Paenibacillus* strains are known causative agents of milky disease in larvae of Japanese beetles (*Popillia jalonica*; Harrison *et al.*, 2000), the DAS1529 was tested for activity on June beetles, a relative of Japanese beetles. No activity was found for cultures grown in JB and PP3 medium. Microscopic examination of those cultures revealed even-colored rods with no visible sporulation or parasporal crystals present. We are able to show DAS1529 can sporulate in defined medium and culture conditions and within the hemolymph of *Manduca sexta*. It is known that the Japanese beetle active *Paenibacillus* strains are typically associated with paraspore and parasporal bodies (Harrison *et al.*, 2000).

[00229] Additional work will be needed to determine whether DAS1529 belongs to an existing species or should be assigned a new species designation.

Example 3 – Insect Bioassay Methodology

[00230] Two insect bioassay methods were used to obtain results presented below. A 96-well format and a 128-well format were used for primary screening for activity against lepidopteran insects. A 24-well diet incorporation format was used to determine specific activity (LC50s) of the toxin.

[00231] For the 96-well format, artificial diet was dispensed into 96-well microtiter plates. Each well measured approximately 0.32 cm² and contained 150 µl artificial diet. Samples/toxins were

applied at a rate of 50 μ l /well for fermentation broth, cell pellets, and purified toxins. Positive control (*Cry1Ac*) at appropriate doses and negative controls (water, medium blank, bacterial host strains not expressing target toxin) at top dose were included. Samples were allowed to dry for approximately 1-3 hours so that the samples lost their moisture but the diet retained its moisture. Either insect eggs were dispersed onto the surface of the sample treated diet, or a single insect larva was seeded per well. The infested plate was sealed either with iron-on mylar covering or covered with sticky lidding with perforations. Tiny air holes were made in the mylar covering to ensure air supply to the insects. The plates were incubated at 28° C for 5 days and scored for mortality and stunting. This was done on a per-well basis, ignoring the number of larvae per well, as multiple eggs are often deposited per well. Activity scores were then assigned to each treatment: 0 = no activity, larvae healthy like water control wells, 1= larvae were stunted, or stunted with some mortality, 2 = larvae were all dead.

[00232] The specific activities (LC50s) of samples/toxins were determined by diet incorporation bioassay in 24-well Nutrend trays (Nu-Trend™ Container Corp., Jacksonville, FL). Insect artificial diet was made just prior to use and held in liquid state at 55° C in a water bath. Serial dilutions (≥ 5) were made by mixing 27 ml of artificial diet with no more than 3 ml of samples/toxins. A total of 30 ml sample and diet mixture was vortexed for 30 seconds and then evenly distributed into each tray, filling ~ 50% of the well volume. Trays were allowed to cool for at least 30 minutes prior to infesting. One test insect was infested into each well, and clear mylar was sealed over the top of each tray to contain the insects. Small holes were punched with an insect pin in the mylar over each well for air circulation. Assays were generally held at 25° C for 6 days but some may have been held at 30° C for 4 days if quicker results were needed. A set of positive and negative controls was run for each assay. Assays were graded on the basis of mortality but data on stunting was also recorded. Statistical methods were used to estimate LC50s for assayed samples and was expressed as ng or μ g/ml diet.

Example 4 – Biochemical Purification and Characterization of Insecticidal Toxins from DAS1529 Fermentation Broth – Thiaminase

[00233] The fermentation broths of DAS1529 contained insecticidal activity against lepidopteran species, such as tobacco budworm, corn earworm, and tobacco hornworm. The nature of the insecticidal activity was investigated by biochemical purification and characterization. Corn

earworm bioassay, as described in Example 3, was used during the purification process to follow insecticidal activities.

[00234] Fermentation broths of DAS1529 were produced using 2% PP3 supplemented with 1.25% NaCl and processed as described in Example 1. Four liters of broth was concentrated using an Amicon (Beverly, MA) spiral ultrafiltration cartridge Type S1Y10 (molecular weight cut off 10 kDa) attached to an Amicon M-12 filtration device according to the manufacturer's recommendations. The retentate was diafiltered with 20 mM sodium phosphate, pH 7.0 (Buffer A) and applied at 5 ml/min to a Q cephrose XL anion exchange column (1.6 x 10 cm). The column was washed with 5 bed volumes of Buffer A to remove unbound proteins. Toxin activity was eluted by 1.0 M NaCl in Buffer A.

[00235] The fraction containing the insecticidal activity was loaded in 20 ml aliquots onto a gel filtration column Macro-Prep SE1000/40 (2.6 x 100 cm) which was equilibrated with Buffer A. The protein was eluted in Buffer A at a flow rate of 3 ml/min. Fractions with activity against corn earworm were pooled and were applied to a MonoQ (1.0 x 10 cm) column equilibrated with 20 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.0 (Buffer B) at a flow rate of 1 ml/min. The proteins bound to the column were eluted with a linear gradient of 0 to 1 M NaCl in Buffer B at 2 ml/min for 60 min. Two milliliter fractions were collected and activity was determined as described in Example 1.

[00236] Solid $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4$ was added to the above active protein fractions to a final concentration of 1.7 M. Proteins were then applied to a phenyl-Superose (1.0 x 10cm) column equilibrated with 1.7 M $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4$ in 50 mM potassium phosphate buffer, pH 7 (Buffer C) at 1 ml/min. After washing the column with 10 milliliters of Buffer C, proteins bound to the column were eluted with a linear gradient Buffer C to 5 mM potassium phosphate, pH 7.0 at 1 ml/min for 120 min. The most active fractions determined by bioassay were pooled and dialyzed overnight against Buffer A.

[00237] The dialyzed sample was applied to a Mono Q (0.5 x 5 cm) column which was equilibrated with Buffer B at 1 ml/min. The proteins bound to the column were eluted at 1 ml/min by a linear gradient of 0 to 1 M NaCl in Buffer B. The active fractions were pooled and adjusted to a final $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4$ concentration of 1.7M. Proteins were then applied to a phenyl-Superose (0.5.0 x 5cm) column equilibrated with Buffer C at 1 ml/min. Proteins bound to the column were eluted with a linear gradient of Buffer C to 5 mM potassium phosphate, pH 7.0 at

0.5 ml/min for 40 min. The purified fractions were pooled and dialyzed overnight against Buffer A.

[00238] The molecular weight of the final purified toxin was examined by a gel-filtration column Superdex S-200. The toxin exhibited a native molecular weight of approximately 40 kDa. SDS-PAGE of the purified toxins showed a predominant band of approximately 40 kDa. This suggested that the native DAS1529 toxin (in this fraction) was an approximately 40 kDa monomer.

[00239] The purified toxin was electrophoresed in 4-20 % SDS-PAGE and transblotted to PVDF membrane. The blot underwent amino acid analysis and N-terminal amino acid sequencing (SEQ ID NO. 17). Searching protein database (NCBI-NR) using the sequence as a query revealed that it is 95% identical to the approximately 42 kDa thiaminase I from *Bacillus thiaminolyticus* (Campobasso *et al.*, 1998; GENBANK Accession No. 2THIA; SEQ ID NO:18). Partial sequence alignments are illustrated in Figure 3, which would be the same alignment with GENBANK Accession No. AAC44156 (thiaminase I precursor; U17168 is the corresponding entry in GENBANK for the DNA, which could be expressed to get a thiaminase produced and secreted from a bacterial cell). The purified thiaminase from DAS1529 was tested on corn earworm (CEW), the results were shown in Figure 4. This toxin did not kill corn earworm (up to a concentration of $8\mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2$) but exhibited 95% growth inhibition at a concentration as low as $5\text{ ng}/\text{cm}^2$. It was also found that the purified thiaminase was not deactivated by proteinase K.

Example 5 – Cloning of Genes Encoding Insecticidal Factors Produced by DAS 1529

[00240] In an attempt to clone the nucleotide sequence(s) that encode the insecticidal factor(s) produced by DAS 1529, a cosmid library was constructed using total DNA isolated from DAS 1529 and was screened for insecticidal activity. Six recombinant cosmid clones were identified that produced insecticidal activity against corn earworm and tobacco budworm neonates. Three of the cosmid clones produced heat labile (when heated at 85°C for 20 minutes) factors that resulted in insect mortality. The other three cosmid clones produced heat labile factors that were growth inhibitory to insects. One of the cosmids that produced insect mortality, designated as cosmid SB12, was chosen for nucleotide sequence analysis.

[00241] A. Construction of a cosmid library of DAS1529.

[00242] Total DNA was isolated from DAS1529 with a DNA purification kit (Qiagen Inc., Valencia, CA). Vector and insert DNA preparation, ligation, and packaging, followed instructions from the supplier (Stratagene, La Jolla, CA). The DAS1529 DNA inserts as *Sau*3A I DNA fragments were cloned into the *Bam*HI site of SuperCos 1 cosmid vector. The ligated product was packaged with the Gigapack® III gold packaging extract and transfected into host cells XL1-Blue MRF'. Transformants were selected on LB-kanamycin agar plates. The cosmid library consisted of 960 randomly picked colonies that were grown in ten 96-well microtiter plates in 200 µl LB-kanamycin (50 µg/ml) for insect activity screening and long term storage.

[00243] B. Screening of DAS1529 cosmid library for insecticidal activity.

[00244] For the primary screening for clones active against lepidopteran insects (CEW and TBW), a total of 960 cosmid clones as single colonies were grown in 2 ml cultures in 96 well plates. Cultures were spun and re-suspended in original culture media at approximately 10 X concentration and submitted to bioassay. The SuperCos 1 vector (SB1) was included as a negative control. Sixteen positive clones (SB2 to SB17) were isolated from the first round of screening. Second and third rounds of screening were carried out to screen for activity against TBW and CEW; one cosmid clone (SB12) consistently showing the highest activity was chosen for further analysis. Table 5 summarizes the activity spectrum (as tested) of the SB12 cosmid. (BAW is beet armyworm, *Spodoptera exigua*; ECB is European cornborer, *Ostrinia nubilalis*; SCRW is Southern corn rootworm, *Diabrotica undecimpunctata howardi*.) The broth of SB12 *E. coli* culture both contained no CEW activity; hence, the active factors in SB12 were different from the active factors in DAS1529 strain culture broth.

Table 5						
Bioassay of SB12 <i>E. coli</i> Clone						
Insects	TBW	CEW	ECB	BAW	Grubs	SCR
Broth Activity	-	-	n.d.*	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.
Pellet Activity	+++	++	+	++	-	-

*n.d. - not determined; -, ++, +++, no, moderate and high activity, respectively

[00245] C. Sequencing of SB12 cosmid insert and identification of *tc*- and *cry*-like ORFs.

Nucleotide sequencing of cosmid SB12 showed that it contained a genomic insert of approximately 34kb. Analysis of this sequence surprisingly revealed the presence of at least 10

putative open reading frames (ORFs) (see Figure 2). Six of the identified ORFs were surprisingly found to have some degree of amino acid sequence identity (38-48%) to *tcaA*, *tcaB*, *tcaC*, and *tccC* previously identified from *Photorhabdus luminescens* (Waterfield *et al.*, 2001), *Xenorhabdus nematophilus* (Morgan *et al.*, 2001), *Serratia entomophila* (Hurst and Glare, 2002; Hurst *et al.*, 2000), and *Yersinia pestis* (Cronin *et al.*, 2001). Those TC protein genes from *Photorhabdus*, *Xenorhabdus*, and *Serratia* have been shown to encode insecticidal factors. Also very interesting was that one DAS 1529 ORF had ~40% amino acid sequence identity to Cry1Ac from *Bacillus thuringiensis*, another gene previously identified as an insecticidal factor (Schnepf *et al.*, 1998; de Maagd *et al.*, 2001). Those findings have significant implication in understanding toxin gene distribution in the bacterial kingdom and in developing further strategies for toxin gene mining and engineering.

[00246]

The nucleotide sequence of the SB12 cosmid was determined. The assembled DNA of 41,456 bp long was further analyzed. Three gaps were located: two in the cosmid vector and one in the insert. Analysis of the nucleotide sequence of the longest contig of approximately 34,000 bp revealed the presence of at least 10 putative open reading frames (ORFs), identified as potential start codons followed by extended open reading frames. This method is known to mis-identify translational start sites by 19% (*Bacillus subtilis*) and 22% (*Bacillus halodurans*) in genomes related to *Paenibacillus* (Besemer, J., Lomsadze, A., Borodovsky, M., *Nucleic Acids Res.* 29:2607-2618, 2001). Therefore, the quality and position of bases complementary to the *B. subtilis* 16S rRNA 5' end (reviewed in Rocha, E.P.C., Danchin, A., Viari, A., *Nucleic Acids Res.* 27:3567-3576, 1999), N-terminal amino acid sequencing, and alignments to related genes were considered in identifying the native translation initiation sites. The putative ORFs and annotations are summarized in Table 6 and are discussed in more detail below.

Table 6 Sequence annotation for SB12 cosmid sequence				
SEQ ID NO:	Some ORF similarity to:	ORF Designation on SB12	Comments	Sequence Location on SEQ ID NO:1
1			Entire insert of SB12	(1-33521)
2	<i>tcaA</i> (truncated at 5')	ORF1		1-3264
3			Translation of ORF1	(1-3261)
4	<i>tcaB</i>	ORF2 (with IS		3271-4740 (5' end);

		element removed)		6079-8226 (3' end)
5			Translation of ORF2 (without insertion) from 5'-most ATG	(amino acids 1-490/ 491-1205)
6	tcaA	ORF3		9521-12820
7			Translation of ORF3	(9521-12817)
8	tcaB	ORF4		12827-16453
9			Translation of ORF4 from 5'-most ATG	(12827-16450)
10	tcaC	ORF5		16516-20850
11			Translation of ORF5	(16516-20847)
12	tccC	ORF6		20867-23659
13			Translation of ORF6 (from better RBS)	(20867-23656)
14		ORF7 (<i>Cry1529</i>)		24422-26213
15			Translation of ORF7	
19	tccC		Translation from 5'- most ATG of ORF6	20798-23656

[00247] ORF1 begins with the first nucleotide of the cloning site for the DAS1529 DNA in cosmid SB12, and is therefore missing its native translation initiation site. ORF1 shares significant DNA sequence homology with ORF3, and sequence comparison analysis suggests the first 18 bp of ORF1 is truncated, and that the first six codons encode the amino acids Met-Val-Ser-Thr-Thr, as found in ORF3. The ORF1 translation start is presumably similar to that of ORF3, from approximately bases 9505 through 9523 of SEQ ID NO:1. Two predicted amino acid sequences are presented for ORF2, ORF4, and ORF6 (SEQ ID NOs:19 and 13), based on alternative translation initiation sites, as noted above. For ORF2, SEQ ID NO:5 is discussed above. The alternate, and preferred, start site is at residue 3295 of ORF1. Thus, the protein resulting from this start site would begin at amino acid residue 9 of SEQ ID NO:5 (translation from better RBS). Likewise, for ORF4, SEQ ID NO:9 is discussed above. The alternate, and preferred, start site is at residue 12,852 of SEQ ID NO:1. The resulting protein would also be missing the first eight amino acids of SEQ ID NO:9 (thus beginning with amino acid residue 9 of SEQ ID NO:8 – translation from better RBS).

Example 6 – Sequence Analysis of “Duplicated” TCs.

[00248] The degree of sequence identity for the two ORF2 fragments (*tcaB*₁) compared to ORF4 (*tcaB*₂) was determined, as was that for ORF1 (*tcaA*₁) compared to ORF3 (*tcaA*₂). A similar

sequence relationship was observed for both pairs of ORFs.

[00249] ORF2 was constructed by combining two fragments, because of an insertion sequence-like element which was inserted in nature (apparently spontaneously), and disrupted this ORF. See Figure 2. The location of this insertion is determinable by analyzing/comparing the entire SB12 DNA sequence (SEQ ID NO:1) with the sequence of SEQ ID NO:4, the latter of which does not reflect the (non-coding) insertion. As indicated with brackets in Figure 7, the sequence of the 5' translation product prior to residue 490 of SEQ ID NO:4 and the 3' translation product from residue 491 on, align well with ORF4 (SEQ ID NO:8). The DNA sequence at the apparent insertion point shows a 9bp direct repeat commonly found flanking insertion elements (CACCGAGCA, bases 4734-4742 and 6071-6080 of SEQ ID NO:1).

Example 7 – Further Sequence Analysis

[00250] In summary, according to Vector NTI clustalW, GCG, and/or Blastp analyses, six of the identified ORFs (ORF1 to ORF6) had 38-48% amino acids sequence identity to *tcaA*, *tcaB*, *tcaC*, and *tccC* (previously identified *Photobacterium* genes). The ORF7 encoded a protein that shared ~40% amino acid sequence identity to *Cry1Ac* from *Bacillus thuringiensis*, another gene previously identified as an insecticidal factor. A phylogram was generated by incorporating ORF7 (*Cry1529*) sequence with a large number of other *Cry* proteins (Figure 8). This phylogenetic tree suggests that *Cry1529* is distantly related to other *P. popilliae* *Cry* sequences such as the *Cry18s* (Zhang *et al.*, 1997, Zhang *et al.*, 1998) that are closer to *Cry2s*; *Cry1529* falls (remotely but most closely) into a group of *Cry* proteins containing commonly found lepidoptera (*Cry1*, *Cry9*), coleoptera (*Cry3*, *Cry8*, *Cry7*), and diptera (*Cry4*) toxins, which is a distinct group compared to those including nematode toxins *Cry5*, -12, -13, -14, and -21 and *Cry2*, -18.

[00251] It was a surprising and novel discovery to find *Cry* and TC protein genes (in the SB12 genomic insert) in *Paenibacillus*. The identification of new *Cry* and TC protein genes has relevance to the art's understanding of *Photobacterium* and *Xenorhabdus*, and *Bacillus thuringiensis*, and broadens the scope of bacterial genera in which *Cry* and TC protein genes have been found. The size of the full-length *Cry1529* identified herein corresponds to the core toxin of *Cry1s*; *Cry1529* represents a new class of *Cry* proteins which also has implications for isolating further *cry* genes from *Bacillus thuringiensis* and *Paenibacillus*.

[00252] To verify that these surprising observations were not the result of strain contamination

(i.e., to confirm that the 34 kb insert carrying TC and *Cry* ORFs was indeed from the total DNA of DAS1529), molecular analysis was carried out by Southern blot hybridization and PCR. For PCR validation, ORF6 (*tccC*-like) and ORF7 (*Cry*1529) specific primers (Example 8, Table 8) were used to amplify ORF6 and ORF7 from SB12 cosmid and DAS1529 total DNA. For ORF6, PCR amplifications were performed on a PE9600 thermal cycler (Perkin Elmer) with the following parameters: initial denaturation at 95° C for 2 minutes; 30 cycles each with denaturing at 95° C for 30 seconds, annealing at 60° C for 45 seconds, extension at 72° C for 2 minutes, and a final extension for 10 minutes at 72° C. For ORF7, amplification parameters were the same as ORF6, except the annealing temperature was 55° C for 30 seconds and extension at 72° C for 4 minutes. Specific PCR products with a single band of expected sizes were amplified for both ORF6 and ORF7.

[00253]

Initial southern blot hybridization was based on partial SB12 DNA sequence and carried out according to standard protocol (Sambrock *et al.*, 1990). DNA samples included total DNA of DAS1529 from two independent preparations, SB12 cosmid DNA, and one negative control DNA sample from NC1 (*Photorhabdus*). Both DAS1529 DNA samples were 16S rDNA sequence confirmed to be of *Paenibacillus* sp. origin, and one was originally used for cosmid library construction; the other was a new preparation. DNA samples were digested with *Eco*RI, blotted onto membrane, and hybridized with Roche DIG System (Roche) labeled 180 bp of PCR product amplified out of SB12. The PCR primers are 5' CCT CAC TAA AGG GAT CAC ACG G 3' annealing partially to the vector and truncated ORF1 (compared to full-length ORF3), and 5' GGC TAA TTG ATG AAT CTC CTT CGC 3' annealing to the truncated ORF1 (*tcaA*-like) and full length ORF3 (*tcaA*-like). A total of three DNA fragments (0.85, 2.7, and 8.0 kb) hybridizing to the PCR probe were detected, 0.85 and 8.0 in the SB12 and 2.7 and 8.0 in DAS1529 DNAs. No signals were detected in the negative control. The 0.85 kb (from first *Eco*RI ORF1 internal fragment to first *Eco*RI site in the vector) and 8.0 kb (from first 5' *Eco*RI site in ORF3 to the third *Eco*RI site in ORF1) matched the calculated sizes of the target DNA fragments from SB12. Detection of the 2.7 kb fragment suggests the presence of an *Eco*RI site 2.7 kb immediately upstream of the first *Eco*RI site within ORF1 in DAS1529 DNA. Those results show that the SB12 insert was from DAS1529 total DNA and, based on hybridization and restriction analysis, all copies of the ORFs were accounted for.

Example 8 – Characterization of Insecticidal Activities of Proteins Encoded by SB12 Cosmid ORFs

[00254] Random transposon insertional mutagenesis (to disrupt an individual ORF or an entire operon) and heterologous expression (expressing individual ORFs or entire operons) were undertaken to isolate individual ORF(s) or operons conferring the insecticidal activities in the SB12 cosmid.

[00255] A. Random transposon mutagenesis of SB12 cosmid

[00256] A Tn mutagenesis library was generated from DAS1529 cosmid SB12 using the GPS-1 Genome Priming System (New England BioLabs, Beverly, MA) following the kit instructions. Briefly, 2 µl 10X GPS buffer, 1 µl pGPS2.1 Donor DNA (0.02 µg), 1 µl SB12 cosmid (0.1 µg) and 18 µl sterile H₂O were added to a 0.5 ml tube. One µl of TnsABC Transposase was added; the mixture was vortexed and then spun briefly to collect the materials at the bottom of the tube. This reaction mixture was incubated for 10 minutes at 37° C. One µl of Start Solution was added and mixed by pipetting up and down several times. The reaction was incubated at 37° C for 1 hour and was then heat inactivated at 75° C for 10 minutes. One µl of the reaction mixture was diluted 10-fold with sterile H₂O; 1 µl of the diluted reaction was electroporated into 100 µl of Electro MAX DH5α-E *E. coli* (Gibco BRL, Rockville, MD). After 1 hour of outgrowth in SOC medium at 37° C, 10 µl or 100 µl were plated on LB agar plates containing 20 µg/ml Kanamycin and 15 µg/ml chloramphenicol, followed by incubation overnight at 37 °C.

[00257] Individual colonies from the SB12 Tn mutagenesis were streaked onto fresh LB agar plates containing 20 µg/ml Kanamycin and 15 µg/ml chloramphenicol. From the streaks, 50 ml cultures of LB containing 20 µg/ml Kanamycin and 15 µg/ml chloramphenicol were inoculated and grown at 28°C, 200 rpm for 48 hours. The cells were then collected by centrifugation at 3500 rpm for 20 minutes. The supernatant was removed and the pellet resuspended in 2.5 ml of the culture supernatant for a 20X concentration. The concentrated cell pellet was then assayed for activity against corn earworm. Forty µl of the 20X concentrate was surface applied to artificial diet using 8 wells per sample in 128 well plates. Newly hatched corn earworm larvae were added and allowed to feed for 5 days, at which time mortality and weights were recorded.

[00258] A total of 184 clones were tested for loss of activity against corn earworm. The results are summarized in Table 7. Bioassay of Tn clones revealed that a Tn insertion in the *Cry1529* gene results in complete loss of activity. Initial bioassay showed that the activities of clones

which carried Tn insertions in the tc genes were variable. Further analysis of those clones in which cultures were all normalized to the same cell density prior to bioassay showed no loss of activity as compared to SB12. Results from Tn analysis suggest that ORF7(*Cry1529*) is the key insecticidally active component of SB12 cosmid.

Table 7					
Bioassay of SB12, <i>Cry1529</i> and tc tn insertion <i>E. coli</i> Clones					
Insects	TBW	CEW	THW	Grubs	SCRW
SB12	+++	++	+++	-	n.d
Tn in <i>Cry1529</i>	-	-	-	-	-
Tn in tcs	+++	++	+++	-	-

* n.d. - not determined; -, ++, +++, no, moderate and high activity, respectively

B. Heterologous expression SB12 ORFs/operon.

Cry1529 (ORF7) and five tc ORFs (see Table 8 below) were expressed in pET101D[®] system. See Figure 5. This expression vector has all the attributes of the basic T7-regulated pET expression system (Dubendorff and Studier, 1991; Studier and Moffatt, 1986) and allows directional cloning of a blunt-end PCR product into a vector for high-level, regulated expression, and simplified protein purification in *E. coli*. Optimal PCR amplification employed high-fidelity *PfuTurbo*[™] DNA polymerase that is highly thermostable and possesses a 3' to 5' exonuclease proofreading activity to correct nucleotide-misincorporation errors (Stratagene, La Jolla, CA). When ThermalAce[™] polymerase (Invitrogen) is used, point mutations were introduced in the tc ORFs, which were corrected by the *PfuTurbo*[™] based Quick-Change[™] XL site-directed mutagenesis kit (Stratagene). The *E. coli* strain BL21 Star[™] (DE3), was used as a host for expression since it contains the *rne131* mutation (Lopez *et al.*, 1999) that generally enhances mRNA stability and the yield of the recombinant proteins.

Individual ORFs were PCR amplified out of the SB12 cosmid with ORF specific primers (Table 8) under defined conditions. As a directional cloning requirement, the forward PCR primers were designed to contain the sequence, CACC, at the 5' end to ensure PCR product base pair with the overhang sequence, GTGG, in the pET101.D vector. The reverse primers when paired with forward primers will amplify each ORF, respectively. PCR reactions were carried out in 50 µl reaction mixture containing of 50 ng of SB12 cosmid DNA, 1X *Pfu* reaction buffer (Stratagene), 0.2mM each of dNPT, 0.25 mM of each primer, and 2 U of *PfuTurbo* DNA

polymerase (Stratagene). PCR amplifications were performed on a PE9600 thermal cycler (Perkin Elmer) with the following parameters: initial denaturation at 95° C for 2 minutes, 35 cycles each with denaturing at 95° C for 30 seconds, annealing at 55° C for 30 seconds, extension at 72° C for 2 minutes per kb ORF, and a final extension for 10 minutes at 72° C.

Table 8.
Summary of PCR Primers for Cloning ORF1-7

ORFs	Forward primers (5' to 3')	Reverse primers (5' to 3')
ORF1 (tcaA ₁)	CACCATGCTTTATAAGGCTGGC	TCAGGCCTGCACCGC
ORF3 (tcaA ₂)	CACCATGGTGTCAACAACAGACAACAC	TCAGGCTTTCGCTGCAGC
ORF4 (tcaB ₂)	CACCATGACCAAGGAAGGTGATAAGC	CTATTTTCATAACATATCGAATTGG
ORF5 (tcaC)	CACCATGCCACAATCTAGCAATGC	TCACCGCGCAGGCGGTGAAG
ORF6 (tccC)	CACCATGAAAATGATACCATGGACTCATC	CTACTTTCTCTTCATTGAAAACCGGCGG
ORF7 (Cry1529)	CACCATGAACTCAAATGAACCAAATTTATC	AACTGGAATTAACCTTCGATTTC

[00262] PCR products for each ORF were cloned into pET101.D following instructions from the supplier (Invitrogen). The cloned ORF was purified as pET101.D plasmid DNA and sequenced verified. Since Tn analysis indicated ORF7 is the key component of SB12 for control of the tested pests, biochemical analysis and insect bioassay focused on heterologously expressed ORF7 proteins. For ORF7 expression clones, DNA sequence analysis showed 100% match with the original SB12 DNA sequence. Expression of ORF7 was induced by 0.5 mM IPTG for 4 hrs according to kit instructions (Invitrogen).

[00263] C. Bioassay for insecticidal activities of ORF7 and tc operon.

[00264] Bioassay samples were prepared as whole *E. coli* cells, cell lysates, and purified toxins. The spectrum and specific activity of ORF7 (Cry1529) is summarized in Table 10. Cry1529 is most active against tobacco hornworm (*Manduca sexta*) and highly active (LC50 of 10 µg/ml diet) against tobacco budworm (*Heliothis virescens*); 100% mortality was observed for both insects. At higher doses, Cry1529 conferred some mortality (20 to 60%) and substantial growth inhibition on corn earworm (*Heliothis zea*), beet armyworm (*Spodoptera exigua*), and black cutworm (*Agrotis ipsilon*). For European cornborer (*Ostrinia nubilalis*), Cry1529 had some growth inhibition at higher doses. For some other insect species (fall armyworm, boll weevil,

southern rootworm, mosquito), no activity was detected. The *Cry1529* LC50s for *Cry1A* (*Cry1Ac*) resistant diamond back moth (DBMr) and sensitive diamond back moth (DBM) colonies are $>50 \mu\text{g/ml}$ and $<1.0 \mu\text{g/ml}$, respectively, suggesting a potential cross resistance. *Cry1529* did not confer detectable activity on grass grubs, a relative of Japanese beetles.

[00265] To test the activity of other non-*Cry1529* factors in DAS1529, one *Cry1529* tn knockout SB12 cosmid clone (tn67) was assayed against TBW, CEW, SCRW, ECB, BW, BAW, THW, and grass grubs; no activity was found against these pests. To address the issue of potential non- or low-expression of tc ORFs in SB12 background, individually expressed tc ORFs were tested independently and in combination with the other TCs from DAS 1529; no activity was found against TBW, CEW, and grass-grubs. Further, four ORFs were expressed as a single operon to very high levels in *E. coli* cells. When tested *in vitro*, the whole cells contained no detectable activity on TBW, CEW, and grass-grubs. While the lack of grub activity is somewhat interesting, these results are not surprising in that *Paenibacillus* typically infect a narrow range of grub hosts. In light of this, it could follow that the spectrum of activity of the insecticidal toxins might also be relatively narrow. Thus, screens (using known methods) involving a broader range of pests, and additional time, would be required to identify susceptible pests. The results presented herein should not lead one away from recognizing that the subject TC proteins have utility as do other TC proteins from *Xenorhabdus*, *Photorhabdus*, and the like.

[00266] Soluble proteins were extracted with 25 mM sodium phosphate pH 8.0, 100 mM sodium chloride and analyzed on 4-12% NuPAGE gradient gel with 1X MES buffer (Invitrogen). ORF7 protein was purified using standard procedures, and N-terminal sequencing revealed the expected sequence: MNSNEPNLSDV. A bioassay was performed with whole *E. coli* cells, with normalized cell density, expressing target proteins. See Figure 6. Large scale purified ORF7 protein was used to obtain LC50s for ORF7 by *in vitro* bioassay. Thermal stability analysis of the purified ORF7 indicated that a 5 minute treatment at 75° C is sufficient to abolish its activity against TBW. See Table 9.

Table 9. Thermal Stability of Purified <i>Cry1529</i> (ORF7)	
Samples	Activity
<i>Cry1529</i> , room temperature	+++
<i>Cry1529</i> , 50° C for 5 min.	+++
<i>Cry1529</i> , 50° C for 10 min.	+++
<i>Cry1529</i> , 75° C for 5 min.	-
<i>Cry1529</i> , 75° C for 10 min.	-
<i>Cry1529</i> , 100° C for 5 min.	-

-, +++, no and full activity, respectively

[00267] For the *tc* genes, error-free clones of ORF3 and ORF6 were used as intermediate clones to generate a *tc* operon clone expressing ORF3 (*tcaA*), ORF4 (*tcaB*), ORF5 (*tcaC*), and ORF6 (*tccC*). To construct the *tc* operon in pET101.D, the *NsiI/SacI* fragment containing partial *tcaA*, entire *tcaB* and *tcaC*, and partial *tccC* was excised out of SB12 cosmid to replace the *NsiI/SacI* insert in pET101.D-*tcaA*; this was followed by the insertion of a 208 bp *SacI* fragment from pET101.D-*tccC*. See Figure 5. All four ORFS were expressed to high levels by standard IPTG induction. For the ORF6 (*tccC*) expressed in the *tc* operon, the size of the expressed protein was slightly smaller than the ORF6 predicted by Vector NTI from the 5'-most ATG (SEQ ID NO:18) and expressed independently. Hence, the annotated ORF6 (SEQ ID NO:13) based on the presence of a ribosome binding site consensus is likely the native protein produced in SB12 and DAS1529.

D. Activity Spectrums of Toxins

[00268] The toxin activity spectrum of *Cry1529* (ORF7) is summarized in Table 10.

Table 10. Spectrum activity for <i>E. coli</i> and <i>Pseudomonas</i> expressed <i>Cry1529</i>				
Species	Active (+++)	Format & Method	Material Production Method	LC ₅₀
<i>H. virescens</i> (TBW)	+++	96 well top load and diet incorporation (scores, mortality, inhibition)	FCP, SE, purified, IC	11 µg tox/ml diet with <i>E. coli</i> cell preps
<i>H. zea</i> (CEW)	+	96 well top load and diet incorporation (scores, mortality, inhibition)	FCP, SE, purified, IC	>100 µg tox/g diet
<i>S. exigua</i> (BAW)	+	96 well top (score)	FCP, purified	>78 µg/cm ²
<i>S. frugiperda</i> (FAW)	-	96 well top (score)	FCP, purified	>>10 µg/cm ²
<i>Plutella xylostella</i> (DBM)	+++	96 well top (score)	FCP, purified	0.02 µg tox/g diet
<i>Cry1A</i> resistant <i>Plutella xylostella</i> (rDBM)	+	96 well top (score)	FCP, purified	59.7 µg tox/g diet

<i>A. ipsilon</i> (BCW)	+	96 well top (score)	FCP, purified	>10 $\mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2$
<i>O. nubilalis</i> (ECB)	+	128 well top (weights)	FCP, purified	>43 $\mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2$
<i>Culex</i> sp. (Mosquito)	-	1oz cups (mortality)	FCP, purified	>20 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml H}_2\text{O}$
<i>Diabrotica undecimpunctata howardi</i> (SCRW)	-	96 well top (score)	FCP, purified	>>100 $\mu\text{g tox}/\text{cm}^2$
<i>Anthonomous grandis grandis</i> (BW)	-	128 well top (weights)	FCP, purified	>>43 $\mu\text{g tox}/\text{cm}^2$
<i>M. sexta</i> (THW)	+++			(highly active)
<i>Continis mutabilis</i> (Beetles); surrogate for grass grub	-			>>100 $\mu\text{g tox}/\text{g soil}$

Key: -, +, ++, +++ (no, low, moderate, high activity); FCP, frozen cell pellets; SE, soluble extract; purified = column purified *Cry1529*; IC, P.f. *Cry1529* inclusion

[00269] Only a limited range of pests was used in assays in an initial attempt to determine the activity spectrum of the subject TCs/tc ORFs. The following data, using the ORF3-OR6 operon, were obtained:

Table 11. Spectrum activity for Tc ORF's					
Species	Active (+++)	Format & Method	High Dose	Material Production Method	Comments
<i>H. virescens</i> (TBW)	-	96 well top (score)	10x	FCP	No effect
<i>H. zea</i> (CEW)	-	96 well top (score)	10x	FCP	No effect
<i>S. exigua</i> (BAW)	-	96 well top (score)	10x	FCP	No effect
<i>Spodoptera frugiperda</i> (FAW)	-	96 well top (score)	10x	FCP	No effect
<i>A. ipsilon</i> (BCW)	-	96 well top (score)	10x	FCP	No effect

[00270] Again, while this initial round of screening did not reveal activity of these TCs against these pests, one skilled in the art would not doubt that the subject proteins are useful, as are the corresponding *Photographus/Xenorhabdus* proteins. In addition, see Example 10, below.

Example 9 – Use of PCR primers for identifying *Cry1529* homologues from other bacterial genera, species, and strains

[00271] For screening additional ORF7 *cry1529* homologs from other (*Paenibacillus* or other) strains, gene specific and degenerate PCR primers were designed to amplify the target ORF7 DNA sequences of 1 kb. The PCR primers were deduced from two, well-conserved protein

motifs (QAANLHL, domain I, block 1 core for forward primer; GPGFTGGD, domain III, block 3 for reverse primer) highly conserved in *Cry* proteins. Those primers are listed in Table 12 and were validated on DAS1529. PCR amplifications were performed on a PE9600 thermal cycler (Perkin Elmer) with the following parameters: initial denaturation at 95° C for 2 minutes; 35 cycles each with denaturing at 95° C for 30 seconds, annealing at 47° C for 45 seconds, extension at 72° C for 2 minutes, and a final extension for 10 minutes at 72° C. Those primer pairs were used to screen a bacterial (non-*B. thuringiensis*) culture collection by PCR. Five out of 192 strains (three *Paenibacillus*, one *Bacillus*, and one unidentified) produced PCR products of expected sizes. These strains were also found to have CEW activity according to primary bioassay screening. However, sequence analysis of amplicons obtained from one of these strains using different primers showed that the amplicons were not derived from a *cry* gene.

[00272] Notwithstanding this, and as these screens were not exhaustive, the subject invention includes methods of screening *Paenibacillus* spp., *Bacillus* spp. (including *Bacillus thuringiensis* and *sphaericus*), and the like for *Cry*1529-like proteins and genes. Given the significant nature of the discovery of lepidopteran-toxic *Cry* proteins in *Paenibacillus*, the subject invention also includes methods of screening *Paenibacillus* spp., generally, for lepidopteran-toxic *Cry* proteins and genes. Various screening methods are well-known in the art, including PCR techniques (as exemplified above), probes, and feeding assays (where whole cells are fed to target pests). As one skilled in the art would readily recognize, screening methods of the subject invention include the preparation and use of clone libraries (such as cosmid libraries) in these screens.

Table 12	
PCR Primers for Screening ORF7 Homologs	
Gene-specific and degenerate Primers	DNA sequence (5' to 3')
<i>Cry</i> 1529-F	CAAGCAGCCAACCTCCACCTA
<i>Cry</i> 1529-R	ATCCCCTCCTGTAAAGCCTGG
<i>Cry</i> PP-F	CAAGCNGCNAATYTWCATYT
<i>Cry</i> PP-R	TCNCCNCCNGTAAANCCWGG
<i>Cry</i> PT-F	CARGCSGCSAAYYTBCAYYT
<i>Cry</i> PP-F2	CAAGCWGCWAATYTWCATYT
<i>Cry</i> PP-R2	TCHCCWCCWGTAAAWCCWGG
<i>Cry</i> PT-F2	CAGGCSGCSAAYYTGCATYT

1529=gene specific; PP=*P. popilliae* codon bias; PT=*P. thiaminolyticus* codon bias

Example 10 – Complementation of *Xenorhabdus* XptA2 TC Protein Toxin with DAS1529 TC Proteins

[00273] This example provides experimental evidence of the ability of DAS1529TC proteins, expressed here with a single operon (ORFs 3-6; *tcaA*, *tcaB*, *TcaC* and *tccC*; see section C of Example 8), to complement the XptA2 toxin from *Xenorhabdus nematophilus* Xwi (see SEQ ID NO:49). Two independent experiments were carried out to express the DAS1529 TC operon and XptA2 independently, or to co-express the XptA2 gene and the TC operon in the same *E. coli* cells. Whole cells expressing different toxins/toxin combinations were tested for activity against the lepidopteran insects: corn earworm (*Heliothis zea*; CEW) and tobacco budworm (*Heliothis virescens*; TBW). The data from both experiments indicate that DAS1529 TC proteins are able to enhance *Xenorhabdus* TC protein XptA2 activity on both insect species tested.

[00274] A. Co-expression of DAS1529 TCs and *Xenorhabdus* XptA2

[00275] Expression of the TC operon was regulated by the T7 promoter/*lac* operator in the pET101.D expression vector that carries a ColE1 replication origin and an ampicillin resistance selection marker (Invitrogen). Comprehensive description of cloning and expression of the tc operon can be found in section C of Example 8. The XptA2 gene was cloned in the pCot-3 expression vector, which carries a chloramphenicol resistance selection marker and a replication origin compatible with the ColE1. The pCot-3 vector expression system is also regulated by the T7 promoter/*lac* operator. Hence, compatible replication origins and different selection markers form the basis for co-expression of the TC operon and XptA2 in the same *E. coli* cells. Plasmid DNAs carrying the TC operon and XptA2 were transformed into *E. coli*, BL21 Star™ (DE3) either independently or in combination. Transformants were selected on LB agar plates containing 50 µg/ml carbenicillin for pET101.D-TC operon, 50µg/ml chloramphenicol for pCot-3-XptA2, and both antibiotics for pET101.D-TC operon/pCot-3-XptA2. To suppress basal toxin expression, glucose at a final concentration of 50 mM were included in both agar and liquid LB medium.

[00276] For toxin production, 5ml and 50 ml of LB medium containing antibiotics and 50 mM glucose were inoculated with overnight cultures growing on the LB agar plates. Cultures were grown at 30°C on a shaker at 300 rpm. Once the culture density has reached an O.D. of ~0.4 at 600 nm, IPTG at a final concentration of 75 µM was added to the culture medium to induce gene expression. After 24 hours, *E. coli* cells were harvested for protein gel analysis by the NuPAGE

system (Invitrogen). Cell pellets from 0.5 ml 1X culture broth was resuspended in 100 μ l of 1X NuPAGE LDS sample buffer. Following brief sonication and boiling for 5 min, 5 μ l of the sample was loaded onto 4 to 12% NuPAGE bis-tris gradient gel for total protein profile analysis. XptA2 expressed to detectable levels when expressed independently or in the presence of the TC operon. Based on gel scan analysis by a Personal Densitometer SI (Molecular Dynamics), XptA2 expressed nearly 8X as high by itself as when co-expressed with the TC operon. For the 5 ml induction experiment, there is a nearly equal expression of XptA2.

[00277] B. Bioassay for Insecticidal Activity

[00278] As described in Example 8, DAS1529 tc ORFs when expressed independently or as an operon, did not appear to be active against TBW and CEW. The following bioassay experiments focused on determining whether *Paenibacillus* (DAS1529) TC proteins (of ORFs 3-6; TcaA-, TcaB-, TcaC-, and TccC-like proteins) can complement *Xenorhabdus* TC protein toxin activity (XptA2 is exemplified). Bioassay samples were prepared as whole *E. coli* cells in 4 X cell concentrate for the 5ml induction experiment, both the XptA2 and XptA2/TC operon cells contained very low but nearly equal amount of the XptA2 toxin. Data in Table 13 showed that at the 4X cell concentration tested, TC proteins + *Xenorhabdus XptA2* was active against CEW. This provided the first evidence of a complementation effect of *Paenibacillus* DAS1529 TC proteins on *Xenorhabdus XptA2*.

Table 13 Bioassay of DAS1529 TC complementation of <i>Xeno. XptA2</i> on <i>H. zea</i>	
Insects:	CEW
Negative control	-
TCs (DAS1529)	-
<i>Xeno. XptA2</i>	-
TC proteins + <i>Xeno. XptA2</i>	++

* -, ++, +++ = no, moderate and high activity, respectively

[00279] For the second bioassay experiment, the amount of XptA2 protein in the XptA2 cells and the XptA2 + TC operon cells was normalized based on densitometer gel scan analysis. As shown in Table 14, XptA2 *per se* had moderate activity at 40X on TBW (*H. virescens*), but the activity dropped to a level undetectable at and below 20X. However, when co-expressed with TCs, high levels of activity were very apparent in the presence of 10X and 5X XptA2, and low activity was still noticeable at 1.25X XptA2. These observations indicate there is a significant potentiation

effect of 1529 TC proteins on *Xenorhabdus* XptA2 against *H. virescens*. At the highest doses tested, neither the negative control nor the tc operon *per se* had any activity against this pest.

**Table 14 Bioassay of IDAS1529 TC complementation of XptA2
on *H. virescens***

Normalized XptA2	40X	20X	10X	5X	2.5X	1.25X
XptA2	+	-	-	-	n.d.	n.d.
TCs +XptA2	n.d.	n.d.	++	++	+	-

* n.d. - not determined; -, +, ++, +++ = no, low, moderate, and high activity, respectively

Example 11 – Stabilization of *Cry*1529 protein against trypsin digestion.

[00280]

This example teaches modifications to the DNA sequence disclosed as SEQ ID NO:14, which encodes the *Cry*1529 protein (disclosed as SEQ ID NO:15) such that the new encoded proteins are more resistant to proteolytic digestion by trypsin than is the native protein. Digestion of proteins in the gut of insects limits the time of exposure of the insect to a protein toxin. Therefore, methods that decrease the susceptibility of a protein toxin to protease digestion can be used to increase potency of the protein.

[00281]

For these tests, trypsin enzyme (*e.g.* Sigma Chemical #T1426) and trypsin inhibitors (*e.g.* Sigma Chemical #T9008) were prepared as stock solutions of 4 mg/mL or 10 mg/mL in 50 mM Tris HCl buffer, pH8.0. Test incubations with various concentrations of trypsin and *Cry*1529 protein were performed at 37°C for 1 hour, and were terminated by addition of an equal volume of an equal concentration of trypsin inhibitors (*e.g.* a digestion that received 35 µL of 4 mg/mL trypsin solution was terminated by addition of 35 µL of 4 mg/mL trypsin inhibitors). For a typical experiment, *Cry*1529 protein was produced by appropriately engineered *E. coli* cells and purified by steps described previously, which included separation from other proteins by passage through a size-exclusion column. Following digestion, the protease products were analyzed by standard acrylamide gel electrophoresis followed by immunoblot analysis using antibody prepared against the *Cry*1529 protein. The results of such an experiment are shown in Figure 9.

[00282]

Trypsin digestion produces two major protein products, the smaller of which is approximately 50 kDa in molecular size. It is noted that this digestion pattern is the same as that produced from trypsin digestion of a *Cry*1529-His₆ protein, which is identical to the native *Cry*1529 protein amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:15 except for the addition of amino acids KGELNSKLEGKPIPNPLLGLDSTRTGHHHHHH to the carboxy-terminus. The coding region

for *Cry1529-His₆* was produced by ligating the coding region for the native *Cry1529* protein into the pET101/D-TOPO[®] vector (Invitrogen[™], Carlsbad, CA). This recombinant clone was made to facilitate purification of the recombinant *Cry1529* protein by binding to a commercially available V5 antibody, whose epitope is represented by the amino acid sequence GKPIPNPLLGLDSTRTG (underlined above), or by purification schemes that exploit the six histidine residues (double underlined above). Procedures for these manipulations were performed according to the recommendations provided with the pET101/D-TOPO[®] vector.

[00283] Trypsin digestion of the *Cry1529-His₆* protein was found to eliminate activity in insect bioassays against lepidopteran insects. MALDI-TOF analysis was used to determine the sequence of amino acids composing the N-terminus of the 50 kDa peptides, and two protease processing sites were determined, corresponding to amino acid residues 122 (R, Arginine) and 126 (K, Lysine) of SEQ ID NO:15.

[00284] Modifications to remove the first trypsin cleavage site in the encoded protein were made in the native DNA sequence (SEQ ID NO:14), using the QuickChange[®] mutagenesis methodology (Stratagene, La Jolla, CA). Three different types of mutations were made at amino acids in the region of 120 to 123 of SEQ ID NO:15: RARA to HANA, RARA to RARS, and RARA to QANA. The DNA oligonucleotide primers (listed in the 5' to 3' direction for each strand) for these mutations are listed in Table 15 below. The bases that differ from the native DNA sequence are underlined.

Table 15		
Mutation	Forward (Coding strand) Primer	Reverse (Complementary strand) Primer
RARA to HANA (pMYC2865)	AAAATGATTCTAATAATTACACGCGAAC GCTGTAGTGAAAGAC	GTCTTTCACCTACAGCGTTCGCGTGTAATTA TTAGAATCATTTT
RARA to QANA (pMYC2866)	AAAATGATTCTAATAATTACAAGCGAAC GCTGTAGTGAAAGAC	GTCTTTCACCTACAGCGTTCGCTTGTAAATTA TTAGAATCATTTT
RARA to RARS (pMYC2867)	AAAATGATTCTAATAATTAAAGACGAGA TCTGTAGTGAAAGAC	GTCTTTCACCTACAGATCTCGCTCTTAAATTA TTAGAATCATTTT

[00285] Comparison of the wild type and mutated coding regions induced by these primers are shown in this Table. The pertinent amino acid residues are shown in bold type.

Table 16

Wild-type:	gAA	AAT	GAT	TCT	AAT	AAT	TTA	AGA	GCG	AGA	GCT	GTA	GTG	AAA	GAC
Amino Acids:	(E)	N	D	S	N	N	L	R	A	R	A	V	V	K	D
			115					120		122	123		125	126	
RARA to HANA:	gAA	AAT	GAT	TCT	AAT	AAT	TTA	<u>CAC</u>	GCG	<u>AAC</u>	GCT	GTA	GTG	AAA	GAC
Amino Acids:	(E)	N	D	S	N	N	L	H	A	N	A	V	V	K	D
RARA to QANA:	gAA	AAT	GAT	TCT	AAT	AAT	TTA	<u>CAA</u>	GCG	<u>AAC</u>	GCT	GTA	GTG	AAA	GAC
AMINO ACIDS:	(E)	N	D	S	N	N	L	Q	A	N	A	V	V	K	D
RARA to RARS:	gAA	AAT	GAT	TCT	AAT	AAT	TTA	AGA	GCG	AGA	<u>TCT</u>	GTA	GTG	AAA	GAC
Amino Acids:	(E)	N	D	S	N	N	L	R	A	R	S	V	V	K	D

[00286] The separate, mutated coding regions were each cloned into the pET101/D-TOPO[®] vector, which allows inducible production of the *Cry1529* variant proteins. *E. coli* cells containing the constructs were grown, and expression of the *Cry1529* variant genes was induced by methods recommended by the supplier. Harvested whole cells were then tested in trypsin digestion assays, and analyzed as above. Typical results are shown in Figure 10. For these experiments, 10 mg of whole cell pellet was suspended in 50 mM Tris HCl, pH8.0, and digested for 3 hours at 37° in a final volume of 1 mL, with 100 µL of 10 mg/mL trypsin. The reactions were mixed occasionally during incubation. Digestion was terminated by addition of 100 µL of 10 mg/mL trypsin inhibitors and the tubes were stored on ice.

[00287] These results demonstrate that both the native *Cry1529* (RARA) and the *Cry1529*-His₆ (RARA) proteins are digested by trypsin to produce a major product of about 50 kDa. When the RARA sequence corresponding to the trypsin cleavage site was mutated to HANA or QANA, substantial resistance to trypsin digestion was obtained. No 50 kDa peptides were produced, and easily detectable amounts of the apparently full-length *Cry1529*-His₆ proteins were present. Mutation of the RARA site to RARS did not eliminate production of the 50 kDa peptides, but substantially reduced the rate of protease cleavage. Thus, it is apparent that mutation of protease processing sites in the *Cry1529* protein substantially decreases its susceptibility to protease digestion. This allows the proteins to reside for longer periods of time in the insect gut following ingestion, resulting in increased potency to kill susceptible insects.

Example 12 – Design of PCR Primers for Detection of homologues of IDAS 1529 tcORFs in other *Paenibacillus* strains

[00288] As shown above, *Paenibacillus* strain IDAS 1529 produces an extracellular protein that is toxic to various Lepidopteran insects. Molecular phylogeny of the 16S ribosomal gene of this strain indicates that it is most closely related to members of the *P. thiaminolyticus*-*P. lentimorbus*-*P. popilliae* cluster. It has also been shown that *Paenibacillus* strain IDAS 1529 contains both toxin complex genes (hereafter designated as *tc* genes) and a novel insecticidal crystalline inclusion protein gene designated *cry1529*. In an attempt to determine if *tc* homologues are present in other members of the genus *Paenibacillus*, a collection of *Paenibacillus* strains was screened by polymerase chain reaction (PCR) and hybridization analyses. For the PCR analyses, total DNA isolated from *Paenibacillus* strains was used as template and screened using oligonucleotide primers specific to *tc* genes found in *Paenibacillus* strain IDAS 1529, *Photorhabdus* species, and *Xenorhabdus* species. Amplified products obtained with the *tc* primer sets were cloned and their nucleotide sequence was determined and compared to *tc* sequences obtained from *Paenibacillus* strain IDAS 1529. The following Examples illustrate how one can design *tc*-specific oligonucleotide primers and use PCR to search the total DNA of *Paenibacillus* isolates for DNA sequences that are homologous to *tc* genes identified in *Paenibacillus* strain IDAS 1529, *Photorhabdus* species, and *Xenorhabdus* species. By using PCR analysis (as described herein), it was (and is) possible to identify *tc* homologues in a species of *Paenibacillus* distinct from *Paenibacillus* strain IDAS 1529 and the *P. thiaminolyticus*-*P. lentimorbus*-*P. popilliae* cluster.

12.A. – Extraction of total DNA from *Paenibacillus* strains

[00289] *Paenibacillus* strains were grown on nutrient agar plates (8 g/l nutrient broth, 15 g/l Bacto agar; Difco Laboratories, Detroit, MI) for 3-5 days at 30°C. A single colony was picked and inoculated into a 500 ml tribaffled flask containing 100 ml of sterile nutrient broth (8 g/l nutrient broth; Difco Laboratories, Detroit, MI). Following 24-72 hrs of incubation at 30°C on a rotary shaker at 150 rpm, the cultures were dispensed into sterile 500 ml polyethylene bottles and centrifuged at 6,500xg for 1 hr at 4°C. After centrifugation, the supernatant fluid was decanted and the bacterial cell pellet was retained. Total DNA was extracted from the cell pellet using the QIAGEN Genomic-tip System 100/G and associated Genomic DNA Buffer Set (QIAGEN Inc., Valencia, CA, USA) by following The Sample Preparation and Lysis Protocol for Bacteria exactly as described by the manufacturer. The extracted total DNA was solubilized in 0.5 ml TE buffer (10 mM Tris-HCl, pH 8.0; 1 mM EDTA, pH 8.0).

12.B. – Selection of *tc* specific oligonucleotide primers for PCR

[00290]

To select oligonucleotide primers specific to the *tc* genes previously identified from *Paenibacillus* strain IDAS 1529, the *tcaA*, *tcaB*, *tcdB* and *tccC* nucleotide sequences obtained from *Paenibacillus* strain IDAS 1529, *Photorhabdus* strain W14, and *Xenorhabdus* strain Xwi were aligned using the Align program in the Vector NTI software package (Informax, Inc., Frederick, MD). Nucleotide sequences used for this analysis are listed in Table 17.

Table 17. Nucleotide sequences used for *tc* specific primer selection

Gene	Source organism	Source of nucleotide sequence	Gene Designation
<i>tcaA1</i>	<i>Paenibacillus</i> strain IDAS 1529	SEQ ID NO:2	<i>tcaA1-1529</i>
<i>tcaA2</i>	<i>Paenibacillus</i> strain IDAS 1529	SEQ ID NO:6	<i>tcaA2-1529</i>
<i>tcaA</i>	<i>Photorhabdus</i> strain W14	GenBank: Accession No. AF346497	<i>tcaA-W14</i>
<i>tcaB1</i>	<i>Paenibacillus</i> strain IDAS 1529	SEQ ID NO:4	<i>tcaB1-1529</i>
<i>tcaB2</i>	<i>Paenibacillus</i> strain IDAS 1529	SEQ ID NO:8	<i>tcaB2-1529</i>
<i>tcaB</i>	<i>Photorhabdus</i> strain W14	GenBank: Accession No. AF346497	<i>tcaB-W14</i>
<i>tcdB1</i>	<i>Photorhabdus</i> strain W14	SEQ ID NO:42	<i>tcdB1-W14</i>
<i>tcdB2</i>	<i>Photorhabdus</i> strain W14	SEQ ID NO:43	<i>tcdB2-W14</i>
<i>xptC1</i>	<i>Xenorhabdus</i> strain Xwi	SEQ ID NO:20	<i>xptC1-Xwi</i>
<i>tcaC</i>	<i>Paenibacillus</i> strain IDAS 1529	SEQ ID NO:10	<i>tcaC-1529</i>
<i>tccC1</i>	<i>Photorhabdus</i> strain W14	SEQ ID NO:44	<i>tccC1-W14</i>
<i>tccC2</i>	<i>Photorhabdus</i> strain W14	SEQ ID NO:45	<i>tccC2-W14</i>
<i>tccC3</i>	<i>Photorhabdus</i> strain W14	SEQ ID NO:46	<i>tccC3-W14</i>
<i>tccC4</i>	<i>Photorhabdus</i> strain W14	SEQ ID NO:47	<i>tccC4-W14</i>
<i>tccC5</i>	<i>Photorhabdus</i> strain W14	SEQ ID NO:48	<i>tccC5-W14</i>
<i>xptB1</i>	<i>Xenorhabdus</i> strain Xwi	SEQ ID NO:21	<i>xptB1-Xwi</i>
<i>tccC</i>	<i>Paenibacillus</i> strain IDAS 1529	SEQ ID NO:19	<i>tccC-1529</i>

12.B.i. – *tcaA* specific primer selection

[00291]

Nucleotide sequence alignment of *tcaA1-1529*, *tcaA2-1529*, and *tcaA-W14* identified two regions of nucleotide sequence identity of sufficient length for the selection of PCR primers with minimal degeneracy (shown as boxed regions in Figure 10.). These two regions were selected for the synthesis of *tcaA* specific primers, which were designated SB105 and SB106 (Tables 18 and 19).

12.B.ii. – *tcaB* specific primer selection

[00292]

Nucleotide sequence alignment of *tcaB1-1529*, *tcaB2-1529*, and *tcaB-W14* identified four regions of nucleotide sequence identity of sufficient length for the selection of PCR primers with

minimal degeneracy (Figure 11.). These four regions were selected for the synthesis of *tcaB* specific primers, which were designated as SB101, SB102, SB 103, and SB104 (Tables 18 and 19).

12.B.iii. – *tcaC* specific primer selection

[00293] Nucleotide sequence alignment of *tcdB1-W14*, *tcdB2-W14*, *xptC1-Xwi* and *tcaC-1529* identified two regions of nucleotide sequence identity of sufficient length for the selection of PCR primers with minimal degeneracy (Figure 12.). These two regions were selected for the synthesis of *tcaC* specific primers, which were designated as SB215 and SB217 (Tables 18 and 19).

12.B.iv. – *tccC* specific primer selection

[00294] Nucleotide sequence alignment of *tccC1-W14*, *tccC2-W14*, *tccC3-W14*, *tccC4-W14*, *tccC5-W14*, *xptB1-Xwi* and *tccC-1529* identified two regions of nucleotide sequence identity of sufficient length for the selection of PCR primers with minimal degeneracy (Figure 13.). These two regions were selected for the synthesis of *tccC* specific primers, which were designated as SB212 and SB213 (Tables 18 and 19).

Table 18. *tc* specific primers

Primer designation	Primer length	Sequence of primer (5' to 3')	SEQ ID NO.
SB101	32	GCKATGGCSGACCCGATGCAWTACAAGCTGGC*	22
SB102	32	AGCGGYTGACCRCTCCAGRCTCARATTGTGGCG	23
SB103	28	TGTATAACTGGATGGCYGGWCGTCTSTC	24
SB104	26	TCRAAAGGCAGRAAMCGGCTGTCTGTT	25
SB105	28	CTTCYCTKGATATCYTKYTGGATGTGCT	26
SB106	30	ACGRCTGGYATTGGYAATCAGCCARTCCAA	27
SB212	27	CGYTATIAATATGAYCCKGTVGGYAAT	28
SB213	25	CATCBGTYTCTTTRCCIGARTARCG	29
SB215	33	CGHAGCTCYICCCAGTWYTGCTGGATGARAAA	30
SB217	32	GTRTCATTTTCATCTTCRTTBACIRYAAACCA	31

* K= G or T; S= G or C; W= A or T; Y= C or T; R= G or A; M= A or C; V= G or C or A; B= G or T or C; H= A or C or T, I= inosine

Table 19. *tc* primer combinations

Target gene	Forward primer	Reverse primer	Approximate size of expected amplified product
<i>tcaA</i>	SB105	SB106	1.4 kb
<i>tcaB</i>	SB101	SB102	0.4 kb
<i>tcaB</i>	SB103	SB104	0.65 kb

<i>tcdB</i>	SB215	SB217	2.2 kb
<i>tccC</i>	SB212	SB213	0.9 kb

Example 13 – PCR amplification of *Paenibacillus* DNA

[00295] For PCR amplification using *tcaA*- and *tcaB*-specific primer sets, 3-5 ul of total DNA obtained from each of the *Paenibacillus* strains was mixed with 50 pmoles of each primer and 1X Eppendorf MasterMix (Eppendorf AG; Hamburg, Germany) in a 20 ul reaction volume. Amplification conditions were denaturation at 94°C for 3 minutes followed by 30 cycles of denaturation at 94°C for 1 minute, annealing at 52°C for 1.5 minutes, and extension at 72°C for 1.5 minutes, followed by a final extension at 72°C for 5 minutes.

[00296] For PCR amplification using *tcaC*- and *tccC*-specific primer sets, approximately 375 ng of total DNA obtained from each of the *Paenibacillus* strains was mixed with 50 pmoles of each primer and 12.5 ul of Epicentre® FailSafe™ Buffer D and 2.5 U of Epicentre® FailSafe™ Polymerase (Epicentre; Madison, WI) in a 25 ul reaction volume. Amplification conditions were denaturation at 96°C for 4 minutes followed by 40 cycles of denaturation at 94°C for 30 seconds, annealing at 64°C for 30 seconds, and extension at 70°C for 30 seconds. Each cycle, the annealing temperature was lowered by 0.5°C and the extension time was increased by 5 seconds.

13.A. – Gel electrophoresis, cloning, and nucleotide sequence determination of PCR amplified products

[00297] PCR amplification reactions were examined by gel electrophoresis using 0.8 to 1% Seakem LE agarose (BioWhittaker Molecular Applications, Rockland, ME) in 1X TAE buffer. Amplified products were cloned in the vector pCR 2.1-TOPO® using the TOPO TA® Cloning Kit (Invitrogen™ Life Technologies, Carlsbad, CA) exactly as described by the manufacturer. The nucleotide sequences of the cloned amplified products were determined using M13 Forward, M13 Reverse, and *tc* sequence-specific sequencing primers as needed to obtain double stranded sequence of each cloned amplified product. Nucleotide sequencing was performed using the CEQ Dye Terminator Cycle Sequencing Quick Start Kit (Beckman Coulter, Fullerton, CA, USA) and the CEQ 2000 XL DNA Analysis System (Beckman Coulter) exactly as directed by the manufacturer. The Sequencher (v. 4.1.4) software package (Gene Codes, Ann Arbor, MI) was used to construct contigs from the sequencing data and determine a consensus sequence for each amplified product.

13.B. – Nucleotide sequence analysis of PCR amplified products

13.B.i. – *tcaA*

[00298] When PCR using the *tcaA*- (primer combination SB105 and SB106) was performed using total DNA obtained from the collection of *Paenibacillus* strains, it was observed that total DNA from a *Paenibacillus apiarius* strain (NRRL NRS 1438; hereafter designated as DB482) produced an amplified product of the expected sizes. The amplified product was cloned and sequenced.

[00299] The amplified product obtained using the SB105 and SB106 primer combination was designated as *tcaA2-DB482*. When the sequence of *tcaA2-DB482* (SEQ ID NO:32) as compared to the *tcaA* sequences obtained from *Paenibacillus* strain IDAS 1529 and *Photorhabdus* strain W14, it was observed that *tcaA2-DB482* have the greatest nucleotide sequence identity (90.5% over 1,239 nucleotides) to *tcaA2-1529* (Table 20). The deduced amino acid sequence encoded by *tcaA2-DB482* (designated as TcaA2-DB482; SEQ ID NO:33) was 89.1% identical to the corresponding deduced amino acid sequence of *tcaA2-1529* (designated as TcaA2-1529; SEQ ID NO:7).

Table 20. Nucleotide and deduced amino acid sequence identity of *tcaA2-DB482* with corresponding regions of *tcaA1-1529*, *tcaA2-1529*, and *tcaA-W14*

Gene	% Nucleotide identity with <i>tcaA2-DB482</i>	% deduced amino acid sequence identity with <i>tcaA2-DB482</i>
<i>tcaA1-1529</i>	57	33
<i>tcaA2-1529</i>	90	89
<i>tcaA-W14</i>	50	32

13.B.ii. – *tcaB*

[00300] The amplified products obtained using the SB101 and SB102 primer combination and the SB103 and SB104 primer combination were designated as *tcaB2a-DB482* and *tcaB2b-DB482*, respectively. When the sequences of *tcaB2a-DB482* (SEQ ID NO:34) and *tcaB2b-DB482* (SEQ ID NO:35) were compared to the *tcaB* sequences obtained from *Paenibacillus* strain IDAS 1529 and *Photorhabdus* strain W14, it was observed that both of these sequences have the greatest nucleotide sequence identity to *tcaB1-1529* and *tcaB2-1529* (Table 21). The nucleotide sequence identity of *tcaB2a-DB482* and *tcaB2b-DB482* to *tcaB2-1529* was 92.6% and 89.8%, respectively. The deduced amino acid sequences encoded by *tcaB2a-DB482* (designated as

TcaB2a-DB482; SEQ ID NO:36) *tcaB2b-DB482* (designated as TcaB2b-DB482; SEQ ID NO:37) were 91.2% and 91.1% identical, respectively, to the corresponding deduced amino acid sequence of *tcaB2-1529* (designated as TcaB2-1529; SEQ ID NO:9).

Table 21. Nucleotide and deduced amino acid sequence identity of *tcaB2a-DB482* and *tcaB2b-DB482* with corresponding regions of *tcaB1-1529*, *tcaB2-1529*, and *tcaB-W14*

Gene	% Nucleotide identity with <i>tcaB2a-DB482</i>	% Nucleotide identity with <i>tcaB2b-DB482</i>	% deduced amino acid sequence with TcaB2a-DB482	% deduced amino acid sequence with TcaB2b-DB482
<i>tcaB1-1529</i>	93	93	94	92
<i>tcaB2-1529</i>	93	90	91	92
<i>tcaB-W14</i>	63	57	59	57

13.B.iii. – *tcdB*

[00301] When PCR using the *tcaC*-specific primer combination (SB215 and SB217) was performed using total DNA obtained from DB482 produced an amplified product of the expected size. The amplified product was cloned and sequenced.

[00302] The amplified product obtained using the SB215 and SB217 primer combination was designated as *tcaC-DB482*. When the sequence of *tcaC-DB482* (SEQ ID NO:38) was compared to the *tcaC* sequences obtained from *Paenibacillus* strain IDAS 1529, *Xenorhabdus* strain Xwi and *Photorhabdus* strain W14, it was observed that *tcaC-DB482* has the greatest nucleotide sequence identity (93.5% over 2,091 nucleotides) to *tcaC-1529* (Table 22). The deduced amino acid sequence encoded by *tcaC-DB482* (designated as TcaC-DB482; SEQ ID NO:39) was 91.1% identical to the corresponding deduced amino acid sequence of *tcaC-1529* (designated as TcaC-1529; SEQ ID NO:11).

Table 22. Nucleotide and deduced amino acid sequence identity of *tcaC-DB482* corresponding regions of *xptC1-Xwi*, *tcdB1-W14*, and *tcdB2-W14*, and *tcaC-1529*

Gene	% Nucleotide sequence identity with <i>tcaC-DB482</i>	% deduced amino acid sequence identity with TcaC-DB482
<i>tcaC-1529</i>	93	91
<i>xptC1-Xwi</i>	50	35
<i>tcdB1-W14</i>	50	36
<i>tcdB2-W14</i>	50	36

13.B.iv. – *tccC*

00303] When PCR using the *tccC*-specific primer combination (SB212 and SB212) was performed using total DNA obtained from the collection of *Paenibacillus* strains, it was observed that total DNA from DB482 produced an amplified product of the expected size. The amplified product was cloned and sequenced.

00304] The amplified product obtained using the SB212 and SB213 primer combination was designated as *tccC*-DB482. When the sequence of *tccC*-DB482 (SEQ ID NO:40) was compared to the *tccC* sequences obtained from *Paenibacillus* strain IDAS 1529, *Xenorhabdus* strain Xwi and *Photorhabdus* strain W14, it was observed that *tccC*-DB482 has the greatest nucleotide sequence identity (93.7% over 858 nucleotides) to *tccC*-1529 (Table 23). The deduced amino acid sequence encoded by *tccC*-DB482 (designated as TccC-DB482; SEQ ID NO:41) was 95.5% identical to the corresponding deduced amino acid sequence of *tccC*-1529 (designated as TccC-1529; SEQ ID NO:13).

Table 23. Nucleotide and deduced amino acid sequence identity of *tccC*-DB482 corresponding regions of *xptB1*-Xwi, *tc*-W14, *tccC*-1529, and *tcc* genes from *Photorhabdus* strain W14

Gene	% Nucleotide sequence identity with <i>tccC</i> -DB482	% deduced amino acid sequence identity with TccC-DB482
<i>tccC</i> -1529	94	96
<i>xptB1</i> -Xwi	54	45
<i>tccC1</i> -W14	54	48
<i>tccC2</i> -W14	56	45
<i>tccC3</i> -W14	56	46
<i>tccC4</i> -W14	56	46
<i>tccC5</i> -W14	54	44

13.C. – Summary of PCR analyses

00305] This example (and other examples herein) illustrate methods for designing oligonucleotide primers based on *tc* genes from three genera of bacteria, and that the use of these primers for PCR screening of *Paenibacillus* strains can identify *tc* homologues present in those strains. DB482, which is an isolate of *Paenibacillus apiarius* (deposited as NRRL B-30670) that was isolated from honey bee larva, was shown to contain homologues of *tcaA*, *tcaB*, *tcaC*, and *tccC*. The finding of these *tc* homologues confirms that *Paenibacillus* strain IDAS 1529 is not unique within the genus *Paenibacillus* with regard to possessing *tc* genes. Therefore, one skilled in the art can now use these and other methods to identify other *tc* homologues in other species of

Paenibacillus such as *P. chondroitinus*, *P. alginolyticus*, *P. larvae*, *P. validus*, *P. gordonae*, *P. alvei*, *P. lentimorbus*, *P. popilliae*, *P. thiaminolyticus*, *P. curdlanolyticus*, *P. kobensis*, *P. glucanolyticus*, *P. lautus*, *P. chibensis*, *P. macquariensis*, *P. azotofixans*, *P. peoriae*, *P. polymyxa*, *P. illinoisensis*, *P. amylolyticus*, *P. pabuli*, and *P. macerans*.

Example 14 – Detection of homologues of IDAS 1529 tcORFs in other *Paenibacillus* strains by Southern Hybridization

[00306] This example illustrates how one can use radioactively labeled DNA fragments as probes to search the genomic DNA of *Paenibacillus* isolates for DNA sequences (preferably having some homology to the known tcORFs first detected in IDAS 1529). The results demonstrate that sequences homologous to two of the tcORFs are detected in a *Paenibacillus apairius* isolate, DB482.

[00307] Genomic DNA from various *Paenibacillus* strains (or from *E. coli* to serve as a negative control) was prepared as described above in Example 12, and was digested with restriction enzyme to produce multiple fragments. A typical digestion contained 8 µg of DNA in a total volume of 400 µL of reaction buffer as supplied by the manufacturer of the *EcoR* I enzyme (New England Biolabs, Beverly, MA). The reaction, containing 200 units of enzyme, was incubated overnight at 37°C, then placed on ice. Digested DNA was further purified and concentrated by addition of 30 µL of 3M sodium acetate (pH5.2) and 750 µL of ice cold 100% ethanol, followed by centrifugation. The DNA pellet was washed twice with 70% ethanol, dried under vacuum, and resuspended in 50 µl of TE buffer [10mM Tris HCl, pH8.0; 1mM ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid (EDTA)]. An aliquot was then analyzed by agarose gel electrophoresis for visual assurance of limit digestion. In a similar manner, DNA of IDAS 1529 cosmid SB12 was digested with *EcoR* I, and was used as a positive control for the hybridization experiments.

[00308] *EcoR* I digested genomic DNA fragments to be blotted for Southern analysis were separated by electrophoresis through 0.7% or 1.2 % agarose gels in TEA buffer (40mM Tris-acetate, 2mM EDTA, pH8.0) (1 µg DNA/well). On each gel, lanes containing a 1kb DNA Molecular Weight Ladder (Invitrogen™, Carlsbad, CA) were used to provide molecular weight size standards. The 15 fragment sizes larger than 500 bp in this ladder (in kilobases) are: 12.2, 11.2, 10.1, 9.2, 8.1, 7.1, 6.1, 5.1, 4.1, 3.1, 2.0, 1.6, 1.0, 0.52, and 0.50. The DNA in the gel was stained with 50 µg/mL ethidium bromide, the gel was photographed, and then the DNA in the gel

was depurinated (5 min in 0.2M HCl), denatured (15 min in 0.5M NaOH, 1.5M NaCl), neutralized (5 min in 0.2M HCl) and transferred to MAGNA 0.45 micron nylon transfer membrane (Osmonics, Westborough, MA) in 2X SSC (20X SSC contains 3M NaCl, 0.3M sodium citrate, pH 7.0). The DNA was crosslinked to the membrane by ultraviolet light (Stratalinker®; Stratagene, La Jolla, CA) and prepared for hybridization by incubating at 60°C or 65°C for 1 to 3 hours in "Minimal Hybridization" solution [contains 10% w/v polyethylene glycol (M.W. approx. 8000), 7% w/v sodium dodecylsulfate; 0.6X SSC, 5mM EDTA, 100 µg/ml denatured salmon sperm DNA, and 10mM sodium phosphate buffer (from a 1M stock containing 95 g/L NaH₂PO₄·1H₂O and 84.5 g/L Na₂HPO₄·7H₂O)].

[00309] DNA fragments of the tcORFs for use as hybridization probes were first prepared by Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) using SB12 cosmid DNA as template (see previous examples). The forward and reverse primers for these amplifications are listed (5' to 3' directions of the respective DNA strands) in Table 24, below (bases in capital letters correspond to protein coding regions). Primer Set One is designed to amplify, from SB12 cosmid DNA, a DNA fragment that includes all of tcORF5, which is disclosed as SEQ ID NO:10, and which has some similarity to the *Photothabdus tcaC* gene (Table 6). Primer Set Two is designed to amplify, from cosmid SB12, a DNA fragment that encodes the protein disclosed as SEQ ID NO:19. This DNA fragment and the encoded protein are somewhat longer than the DNA sequence of tcORF6 disclosed as SEQ ID NO:12, and the encoded protein disclosed as SEQ ID NO:13. The proteins disclosed as SEQ ID NO:13 and SEQ ID NO:19 both have some similarity to the protein encoded by the *Photothabdus tccC* gene (Table 6). The amplified PCR products were cloned into the pCR®2.1-TOPO® cloning vector (Invitrogen™, Carlsbad, CA), and fragments containing the tcORFs were released from the resulting clones by restriction enzyme digestion (listed in the Table below), followed by purification from agarose gels using the GenElute™ Agarose Spin columns (Sigma Chemical Co, St Louis, MO). Recovered fragments were concentrated by precipitation using the Quick-Precip™ Plus Solution according to the supplier's instructions (Edge BioSystems, Gaithersburg, MD).

Table 24.

PCR Primer Set One

SB12 tcORF5 (SEQ ID No. 10)

Forward Primer SB126*

gtacgtcatctagaagagatataccATGCCACAATCTAGCAATGCCGATATCAAGCTATTGTC
Reverse Primer SB127*
 tgacatcggtcgacattattaCCGCGCAGGCGGTGAAGCAAATAATGATGAGTCCATGGTA
 Cut from pCR®2.1-TOPO® clone with *Sal* I + *Xba* I + *Pvu* I and purify 4,368 bp fragment

PCR Primer Set Two

SB12 tcORF that encodes SEQ ID No. 19; encompassing tcORF6 (SEQ ID No. 12)

Forward Primer SB128*, **

gtacgtcaactagtaaggagatataccATGAAAATGATACCgTGGACTCAcCATTATTGCTTCACC

Reverse Primer SB129*

tgacatcgctcgagattattaCTTTCTCTTCATTGAAAACCGGCGGAAAAAGTTCCCA

Cut from pCR®2.1-TOPO® clone with *Eco*R I + *Sph* I + *Pvu* I and purify 2,925 bp fragment

* In this table, bases in lower case at the 5' ends of the primers are not complementary to the cosmid SB12 DNA sequence. They were used to provide restriction enzyme recognition sequences on the ends of the amplified products to facilitate subsequent cloning manipulations.

**Bases in lowercase bold were changed from those of the native sequence to eliminate a potential hairpin structure that might interfere with subsequent functional analysis of the clone.

[00310]

Radioactively labeled DNA fragments were prepared using the High Prime Radioactive Labeling Kit (Roche Diagnostics, Mannheim, Germany) according to the supplier's instructions. Nonincorporated nucleotides were removed by passage through a QIAquick® PCR Purification column (Qiagen, Inc. Valencia, CA) according to the manufacturer's instructions. Labeling of approximately 100 ng of DNA fragments by these methods resulted in specific activities of approximately 0.1 µCi/ng. The labeled DNA fragments were denatured by boiling for 5 minutes, then added to the hybridization blot in Minimal Hybridization solution and incubated overnight at 60°C or 65°C. Loose radioactivity was removed from the blot by rinsing at room temperature in 2X SSC, then more tightly bound radioactivity was removed by washing the blot for at least one hour at 60°C or 65°C in 0.3X SSC + 0.1% sodium dodecylsulfate. At least two such washes were performed. The blot was placed on X-ray film at -80°C with two intensifying screens, and the exposed film was developed after 1 to 3 days exposure. Blots were stripped of hybridized DNA fragments by boiling for 10 minutes in 0.3 X SSC + 0.1% SDS, and reused once or twice for subsequent hybridizations.

[00311]

Distinct fragments that hybridized to probes derived from Primer Sets One and Two were observed in genomic DNA obtained from *Paenibacillus apairius* strain DB482. The probe derived from Primer Set One (primers SB126 and SB127), which detects sequences homologous to the IDAS 1529 tcORF5, hybridized to fragments of estimated sizes (in kilobases) of 20, 10.2, and 8.4. Within this range of molecule sizes, mobilities of DNA fragments can provide only

estimations of true molecular sizes. Signal intensity for the fragments estimated to be 20 kb and 8.4 kb were much more intense than the signal intensity for the fragment estimated to be 10.2 kb. Since each of these fragments is at least twice the size of the probe fragment (about 4.4 kb), one explanation for these results is that multiple copies of genes that are similar to the probe derived from IDAS1529 to ORF5, and thus are similar to the *Photorhabdus tcaC* gene, are present in the genome of *Paenibacillus apairius* strain DB482. However, other explanations for this outcome are possible.

[00312] The probe derived from Primer Set Two (primers SB128 and SB129), which detects sequences homologous to the IDAS 1529 to ORF6 and its flanking 5' end sequences, hybridized to fragments of estimated sizes (in kilobases) of 7.8 and 4.5. Signal intensity for the fragment estimated to be 7.8 kb was very much more intense than the signal intensity seen for the fragment estimated to be 4.5 kb. One explanation for this result is that *Paenibacillus apairius* strain DB482 has a single gene similar to the IDAS 1529 to ORF6 and its 5' flanking sequences, and thus is similar to the *Photorhabdus tccC* gene, and that *EcoR* I cleaves the gene into two fragments that have unequal portions of the DNA sequences comprising the gene. However, other explanations for this outcome are possible, including the presence of multiple genes with different amounts of absolute homology to the probe.

[00313] These results (detection by PCR amplification followed by DNA sequence analyses) confirm the presence of relatives of the *Photorhabdus tcaC* and *tccC* genes in *Paenibacillus apairius* strain DB482.

Example 15 - Insecticidal activity of DB482

[00314] *Paenibacillus* strain DAS1529 has been shown to produce an extracellular protein that is toxic to Lepidopteran insects and has also been shown to contain a *cry* gene, designated as *cry1529*. As this strain produces an extracellular insecticidally active protein and intracellular insecticidally active proteins, the subject invention includes screening other strains of *Paenibacillus* for extracellular (released into culture supernatant fluid) and/or intracellular (cell-associated) insecticidally active agents. This example illustrates how one can produce fermentation broths of *Paenibacillus* strains, how to process these broths, and how to test samples derived from these broths for insecticidal activity.

15.A. Production and processing of *Paenibacillus* fermentation broths

[00315]

Paenibacillus strains were grown on nutrient agar plates (8 g/l nutrient broth, 15 g/l Bacto agar; Difco Laboratories, Detroit, MI) for 3-5 days at 30°C. A single colony was picked and inoculated into a 500 ml tribaffled flask containing 100 ml of sterile modified tryptic soy broth (tryptone 10- g/l, peptone 7 g/l, soytone 3 g/l, KCl 5 g/l, K₂PO₄ 2.5 g/l; Difco Laboratories, Detroit, MI). Following 72 hours of incubation at 28°C on a rotary shaker at 150 rpm, the cultures were dispensed into sterile 500 ml polyethylene bottles and centrifuged at 4,000xg for 45 minutes at 4°C. After centrifugation, the supernatant fluid was decanted and filtered through a 0.22 um membrane filter (Millipore Corporation, Bedford, MA). The culture filtrate was then concentrated 20X using a Centricon Plus-20 centrifugal filter device with a 5,000 molecular weight cutoff membrane by centrifuging at 4,000xg. The bacterial cell pellet was resuspended in 10 mM potassium phosphate buffer (pH=8). These samples were then tested in insect bioassay for insecticidal activities contained in the processed supernatant and cell pellet samples.

15.B. Insect bioassay of processed supernatant and cell pellets

[00316]

The insect species included in these assays were *Diabrotica undecimpunctata howardi* (Southern corn rootworm, SCR), *Helicoverpa zea* (corn earworm, CEW), and *Heliothis virescens* (tobacco budworm, TBW). The artificial diet used to rear and bioassay SCR was described previously (Rose, R.L. and McCabe, J.M. 1973. J. Econ. Entomol. 66, 398-400). Standard artificial lepidopteran diet (Stoneville Yellow diet) was used to rear and bioassay ECB, CEW, and TBW. Forty ul aliquots of the concentrated supernatant or cell pellet samples were applied directly to the surface of wells (~1.5 cm²) containing the artificial diet. Treated diet wells were allowed to air-dry in a sterile flow-hood, and each well was infested with a single, neonate insect hatched from surface-sterilized eggs. Assay trays were then sealed, placed in a humidified growth chamber, and maintained at 28°C for 3-5 days. Mortality and larval weight determinations were then scored. Eight insects were used per treatment.

15.C. Insecticidal activity of DB482

[00317]

Concentrated supernatant and cell pellets from strain DB482 had insecticidal activity against SCR, TBW, and CEW relative to control treatments (Table 25.) It is possible that the insecticidal activity associated with concentrated supernatants and cell pellets from DB482 are

the result of two different insecticidal factors, one that is cell-associated (*i.e.* Cry-like) and another that is released from the cells (*i.e.* TC-like). However, it is also possible that the insecticidal activities from both the concentrated supernatant and cell pellets from DB482 are the result of the same insecticidal factors being present in both cellular fractions.

Table 25. Insecticidal activity of DB482

Insects Tested	Concentrated Supernatant activity	Cell pellet activity
SCR	+++*	+++
TBW	++	++
CEW	+++	++
Medium controls	-	-

* -, ++, +++, no, moderate, and high activity, respectively

15.D. Summary of Insecticidal Activity Screening

[00318]

This example illustrates a method for screening concentrated culture supernatants and cell pellets from *Paenibacillus* strains to identify strains possessing insecticidal activity against Coleopteran and Lepidopteran insects. DB482, which is an isolate of *Paenibacillus apiarius* was shown herein to contain homologues of *tcaA*, *tcaB*, *tcaC*, and *tccC*. The finding of insecticidal activity in DB482 confirms that *Paenibacillus* strain DAS1529 is not unique within the genus *Paenibacillus* with regard to producing insecticidal activities against Lepidopteran insects. Therefore, the subject invention includes methods used to identify other strains of *Paenibacillus* with insecticidal activities against Lepidopteran insects in other species of *Paenibacillus* such as *P. chondroitinus*, *P. alginolyticus*, *P. larvae*, *P. validus*, *P. gordonae*, *P. alvei*, *P. lentimorbus*, *P. popilliae*, *P. thiaminolyticus*, *P. curdlanolyticus*, *P. kobensis*, *P. glucanolyticus*, *P. lautus*, *P. chibensis*, *P. macquariensis*, *P. azotofixans*, *P. peoriae*, *P. polymyxa*, *P. illinoisensis*, *P. amylolyticus*, *P. pabuli*, *P. macerans*.

Claims

1. A method of screening a culture of a *Paenibacillus* isolate for a gene that encodes a protein selected from the group consisting of a *Cry* protein that is toxic to a lepidopteran pest and a toxin complex protein, wherein said method comprises at least one of the following steps:
 - (a) obtaining DNA from said culture and assaying said DNA for the presence of said gene; and
 - (b) obtaining protein produced by said culture and assaying said protein for the presence of a protein that indicates the presence of said gene in said isolate.
2. A method of screening a culture of a *Paenibacillus* isolate for a protein that has toxin activity against a lepidopteran pest wherein said method comprises at least one of the following steps:
 - (a) obtaining culture broth produced by said culture and assaying said broth for toxin activity against a lepidopteran pest; and
 - (b) feeding a plurality of said isolates to a lepidopteran pest and observing said pest for effects of a toxin.
3. The method of claim 1 wherein said method comprises screening a collection of *Paenibacillus* isolates for said protein, and said isolate is in said collection.
4. The method of claim 1 wherein said protein is a toxin complex protein.
5. The method of claim 4 wherein said protein enhances the activity of a toxin complex toxin protein.
6. The method of claim 1 wherein said protein is a *Cry* protein that is toxic to a lepidopteran pest.

7. The method of claim 1 wherein said step of obtaining DNA from said culture comprises creating a library of clones from said DNA and assaying at least one of said clones for the presence of said gene.
8. The method of claim 7 wherein said step of assaying said clone for the presence of said polynucleotide comprises assaying said clone for lepidopteran toxin activity, thereby indicating the presence of said polynucleotide.
9. The method of claim 1 wherein said step of assaying said DNA comprises performing polymerase chain reaction with at least one primer that is designed to indicate the presence of said gene.
10. The method of claim 1 wherein said step of assaying said protein comprises immunoreacting an antibody with said protein wherein said antibody is designed to indicate the presence of said protein.
11. The method of claim 1 wherein said step of assaying said DNA comprises hybridizing a nucleic acid probe to said DNA wherein said probe is designed to indicate the presence of said gene.
12. An isolated protein that has toxin activity against an insect pest wherein said protein is encoded by a polynucleotide sequence that hybridizes with the complement of a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS:2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 32, 34, 35, 38, and 40.
13. The protein of claim 12 wherein said protein is a *Cry* protein and said probe is the complement of SEQ ID NO:14.
14. The protein of claim 12 wherein said protein is a toxin complex protein and said probe is the complement of a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS:2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 32, 34, 35, 38, and 40.

15. An immunoreactive fragment of a protein according to claim 12.
16. An isolated polynucleotide that encodes a protein according to claim 12.
17. A cell comprising a polynucleotide according to claim 16.
18. The cell according to claim 17 wherein said cell is selected from the group consisting of a plant cell and a microbial cell.
19. A method of controlling an insect pest wherein said method comprises the step of contacting said pest with a protein comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS: 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 18, 19, 33, 36, 37, 39, and 41.
20. The method of claim 1 wherein said *Paenibacillus* isolate is of a species selected from the group consisting of *P. apiarius*, *P. chondroitinus*, *P. alginolyticus*, *P. larvae*, *P. validus*, *P. gordonae*, *P. alvei*, *P. lentimorbus*, *P. popilliae*, *P. thiaminolyticus*, *P. curdianolyticus*, *P. kobensis*, *P. glucanolyticus*, *P. lautus*, *P. chibensis*, *P. macquariensis*, *P. azotofixans*, *P. peoriae*, *P. polymyxa*, *P. illinoisensis*, *P. amylolyticus*, *P. pabuli*, and *P. macerans*.
21. The method of claim 11 wherein said probe is derived from a gene selected from the group consisting of *tcaA*, *tcaB*, *tcaC*, *tcbA*, *tccA*, *tccB*, *tccC*, *tcdA*, *tcdB*, *xptA1*, *xptD1*, *xptB1*, *xptC1*, *xptA2*, *sepA*, *sepB*, and *sepC*.
22. The method of claim 9 wherein said primer is derived from a gene selected from the group consisting of *tcaA*, *tcaB*, *tcaC*, *tcbA*, *tccA*, *tccB*, *tccC*, *tcdA*, *tcdB*, *xptA1*, *xptD1*, *xptB1*, *xptC1*, *xptA2*, *sepA*, *sepB*, and *sepC*.
23. The method of claim 9 wherein said primer is selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS: 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, and 31.

24. A biologically pure culture of a *Paenibacillus* strain selected from the group consisting of DAS1529 (available under NRRL B-30599) and DB482 (available under NRRL B-30670).

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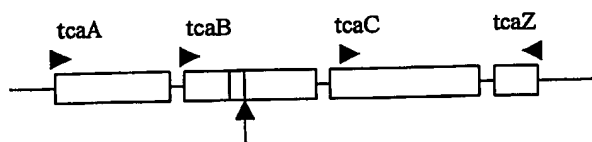
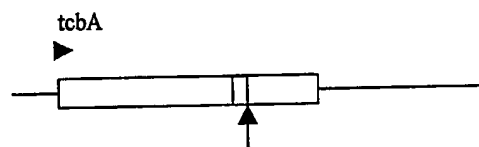
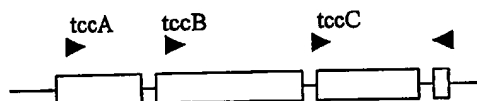
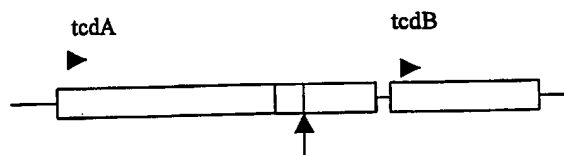
*Photorhabdus**tca**tcb**tcc**tcd*

FIG. 1

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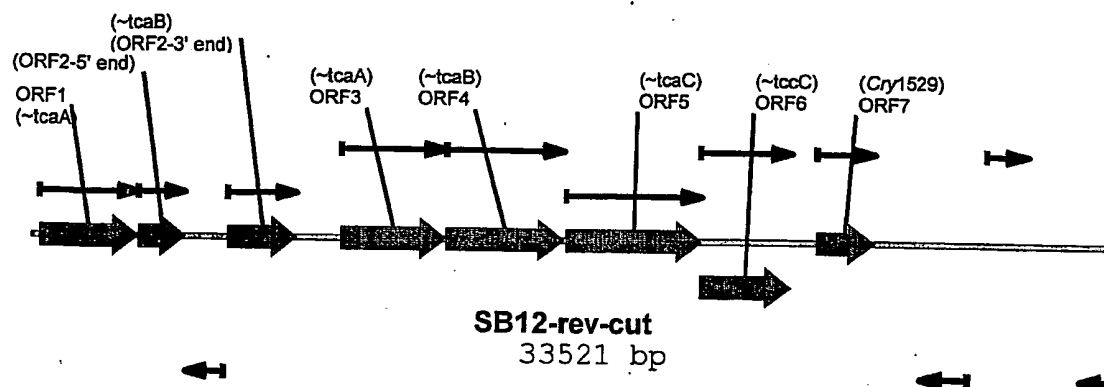


Fig. 2

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2THLA

or

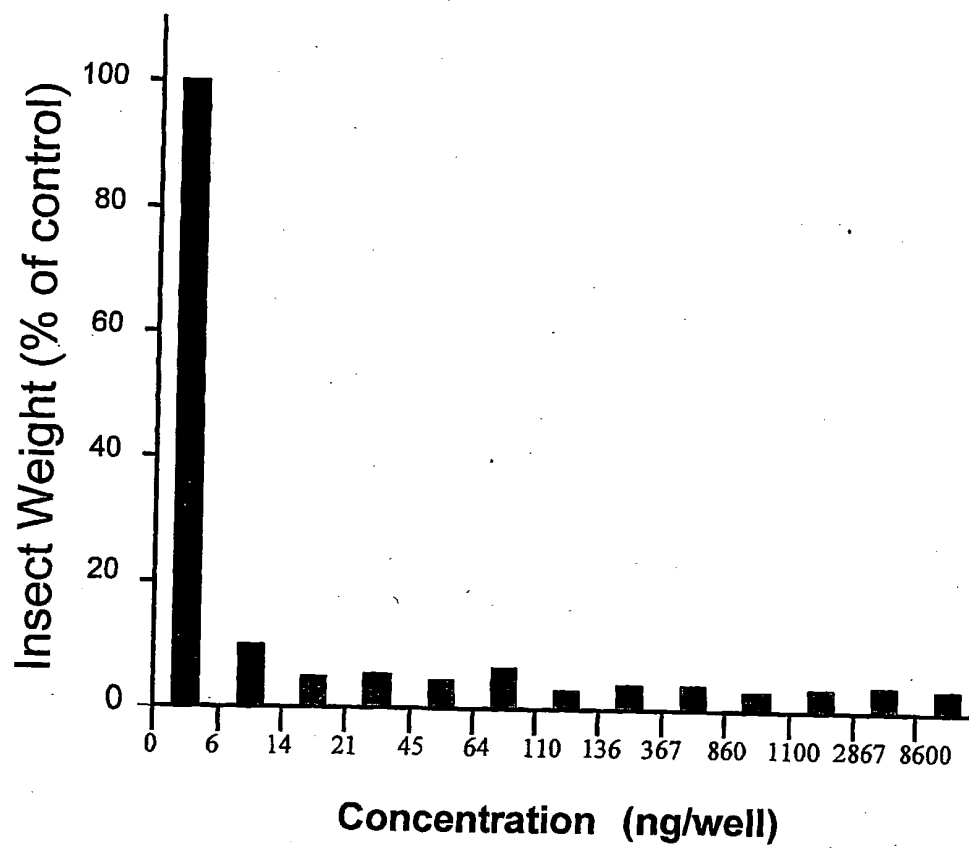
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||||||||||||||| |||

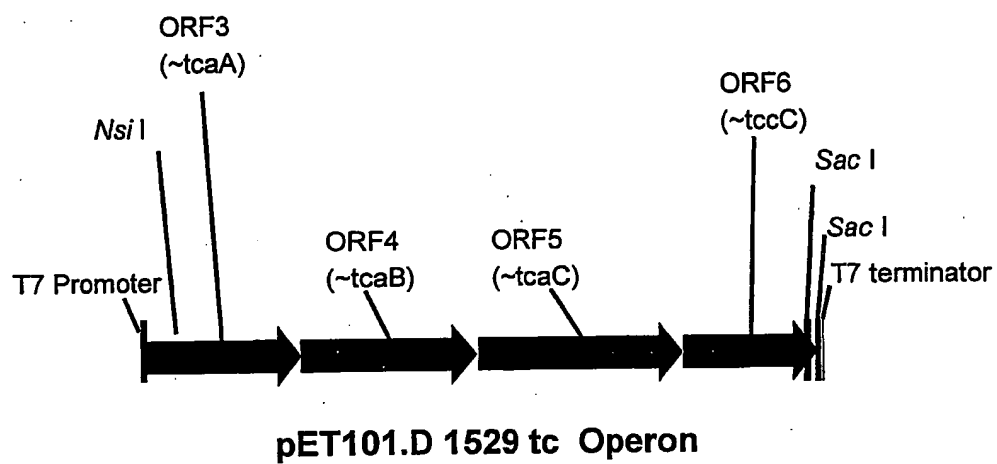
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Fig. 3

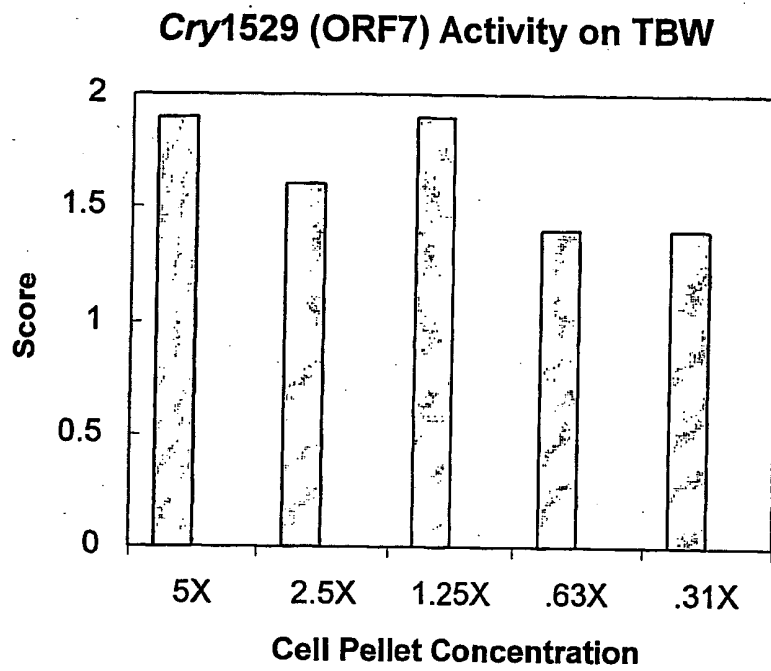
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**Fig. 4**

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**Fig. 5**

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**Fig. 6**

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SEQ ID NO:9(top) x SEQ ID NO:5(bottom)

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1 MTKEGDKHMSTSTLLQSIKEARRDALVNHYIANQVPTALADKITDADSLY 50
  |||||:|:||||||| ||| ||||| ||| ||| |||||
1 MTKEGGKNMSTSTLLQLIKESRRDALVNHYIANNVPRELTDKITDADSLY 50
  |||||:|:||||||| ||||| ||||| ||||| ||||| |||||
51 EYLLLDTKISELVKTSPIAEAISSVQLYMNRCVEGYEGKLTPESENTHFGP 100
  |||||:|:||||||| ||||| ||||| ||||| ||||| |||||
51 EYLLLDTKISELVKTSPIAEAISSVQLYMNRCVEGYEGKLTPEGNSHFGP 100
  |||||:|:||||||| ||||| ||||| ||||| ||||| |||||
101 GKFLYNWDTYNKRFSTWAGKERLKYAGSYIEPSLRYNKTDPFNLQESI 150
  |||||:|:||||||| ||||| ||||| ||||| ||||| |||||
101 GKFLNNWDTYNKRYSTWAGKERLKYAGSYIDPSLRYNKTDPFNLQONI 150
  |||||:|:||||||| ||||| ||||| ||||| ||||| |||||
151 SQGRITDDTVKNALQHYLTEYEVLDLDYISVNKGGDESVLLFVGRTKT 200
  |||||:|:||||||| ||||| ||||| ||||| ||||| |||||
151 SQGRITDDTVKNALQHYLTEYEVLDLEYISVNKGADSVLFFVGRTKTM 200
  |||||:|:||||||| ||||| ||||| ||||| ||||| |||||
201 PYEYYWRLLLLKRDNNNKLVPVWSQWKKISANIGEAVDSYVVRWHKNR 250
  |||||:|:||||||| ||||| ||||| ||||| ||||| |||||
201 PYEYYWRRLTLKKNNNKLVPVWSQWKKITANIGEAVNNYVVLHWHNNR 250
  |||||:|:||||||| ||||| ||||| ||||| ||||| |||||
251 LHVQWCSIEKSENDAGEPIEKRYLNDWFMDSSGVSSFRKIPVVEKSFEY 300
  |||||:|:||||||| ||||| ||||| ||||| ||||| |||||
251 LHVQWGSTEKTQNDGGEPIEKRYLNDWFMDKSSVSSFRKVSYSIENSFTY 300
  |||||:|:||||||| ||||| ||||| ||||| ||||| |||||
301 LDGSLDPRFVALVRNQILIDEPEIFRITVSAPNPIDANGRVEVHFEENYA 350
  |||||:|:||||||| ||||| ||||| ||||| ||||| |||||
301 TEGIIDSRNITIAGNQLFCDDSNTPKATITA.LPFDQIRVYLEKIYGTGG 349
  |||||:|:||||||| ||||| ||||| ||||| ||||| |||||
351 NRYNITIKYGTSTLAIPAGQVGHNPISINETLRVEFGTRPDWYYTFRYL 400
  |||||:|:||||||| ||||| ||||| ||||| ||||| |||||
350 SITVTGENKGYIIVKGEPREVSFSPNTLLDVFIGSNASPRDPYFKATFNR 399
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401 NTIQNSYGSIVNNQFSPSGSNIKGPIDLTLKNNIDLSALLDESOLDALFD 450
  |||||:|:||||||| ||||| ||||| ||||| ||||| |||||
400 EALQNSYGSIKINQYTPPSGSNIKGPIDLTLKNNIDLSALLEESLDVLFD 449
  |||||:|:||||||| ||||| ||||| ||||| ||||| |||||
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  |||||:|:||||||| ||||| ||||| ||||| ||||| |||||
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501 FKFIENSAGYRDDYGSLLTDDKGNVRYWNVPLQEDTEWDDTLSLATTD 550
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  |||||:|:||||||| ||||| ||||| ||||| ||||| |||||
551 DEIAMADPMQYKLAIFIHTMDFLISRGDSLRYMLERDTLAEAKMYIIQAS 600
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  |||||:|:||||||| ||||| ||||| ||||| ||||| |||||
601 QLLGPRPDIRLNHNSWPNPTLQSEADAVTAVPTRSDSPAAPILALRALLTG 650
  |||||:|:||||||| ||||| ||||| ||||| ||||| |||||
600 QLLGPRPEIRINHNSWPDPTLQSEADAVTAVPTRSDSPAAPILALRALLNA 649
  |||||:|:||||||| ||||| ||||| ||||| ||||| |||||

```

Fig. 7A

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651 ENGHFLPPYNDELFAFWDKIDLRLYNLRHNLSLDGQPLHLPLFAEPVNP 700
|||||
650 ENGHFLPPYNDELLAFWDKIDLRLYNLRHNLSLDGQPLHLPLFTEPVNP 699
701 ELQVOHGPGDGLGGSAGSAQSRQSVYRFPLVIDKARNAANSVIQFNALE 750
|||||:|||||:|||||
700 ELQVOHGAGDGLGGSAGSVQSRQSVYRFPLVIDKARNAASSVIQFNALE 749
751 NALTKQDSEAMTMLLQSQQQIVLQOTRDIQEKNLALQASLEATMTAKAG 800
|||||
750 NALTKQDSEAMTMLLQSQQQIVLQOTRDIQEKNLASLQASLEATMTAKAG 799
801 AESRKTHFAGLADNWMSDNETASLALRTTAGIINTSSTVPIAITGGLDMA 850
|:|||||
800 AKSRKTHFAGLADNWMSHNETASLALRTTAGIINTSSTVPIAITGGLDMA 849
851 PNIFGFVAGGSRWGAASAAVAQGLQIAAGVMEQTANIIDISESYRRRRED 900
|||||
850 PNIFGFVAGGSRWGAASAAVAQGLQIAAGVMEQTANIIDISESYRRRRED 899
901 WLLQRDVAENEAQQLDSQIAALREQMDMARKQLALAEQAHQAQAVYELQ 950
|||||
900 WLLQRDVAENEAQQLDSQIAALREQMDMARKQLALAEQAHQAQAVYELL 949
951 STRFTNQALYNWMAGRLSSLYYQMYDAALPLCLMAKQALEKEIGSDKTVG 1000
|||||:|||||
950 STRFTNQALYNWMAGRLSSLYYQMYDAALPLCLMAKQALEKEIGNDKTVG 999
1001 VLSLPAWNDLYQGLLAGEALLLELQKLENLWLEEDKRGMEAVKTVSLDTL 1050
|||||:|||||
1000 IFTLPAWNDLYQGLLAGEALLLELQKLENLWLEEDKRGMEAVRTVSLDTL 1049
1051 LRKTNPNSGFADLVKEALDENGKTPDPVSGVGVQLQNNIFSATLDLSVLG 1100
|||:| ||||| || : |||||:||||| ||
1050 LRKEKPESGFADFVK..EVLGKTPDPVSGVSVQLQNNIFSATLDLSTLG 1097
1101 LDRSYNQAESRRRIKNMSVTLPALGPGYQDIEATLSLGGETVALSHGVDD 1150
||| ||||| :||| ||||| ||||| |||||
1098 LDRFYNQAEGAHRKIKNLSVTLPALGPGYQDIAATLSLGGETVALSHGVDD 1147
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|||||
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Fig. 7B

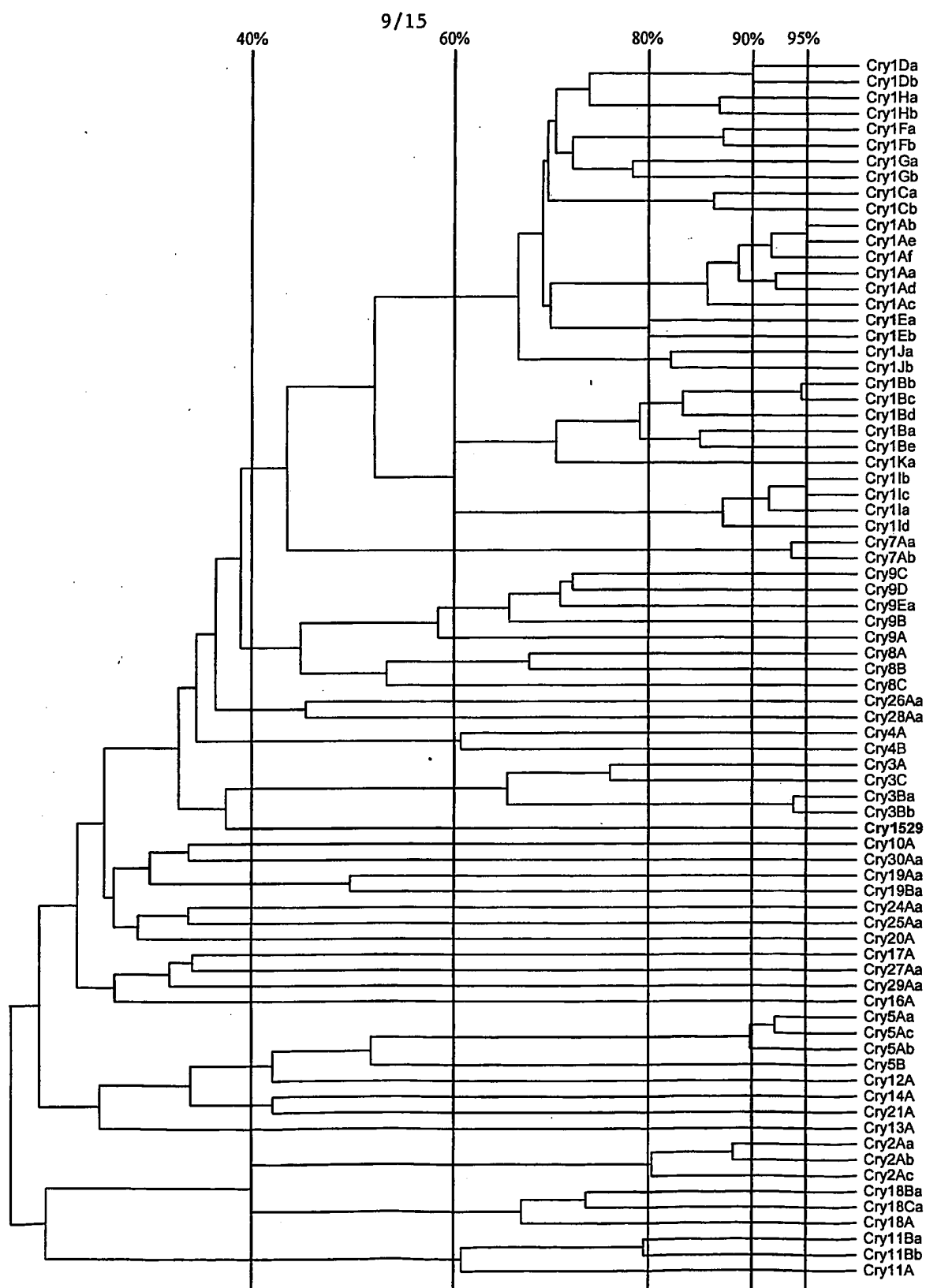
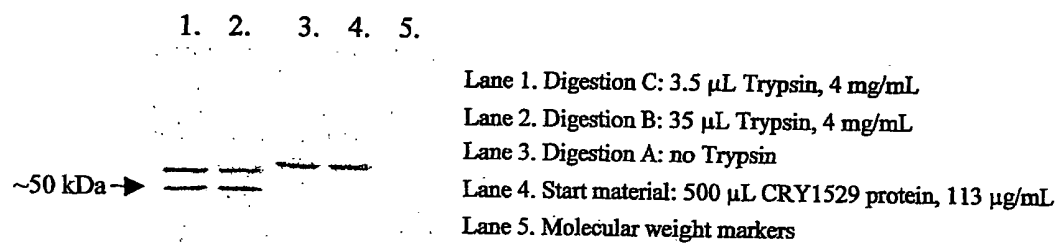
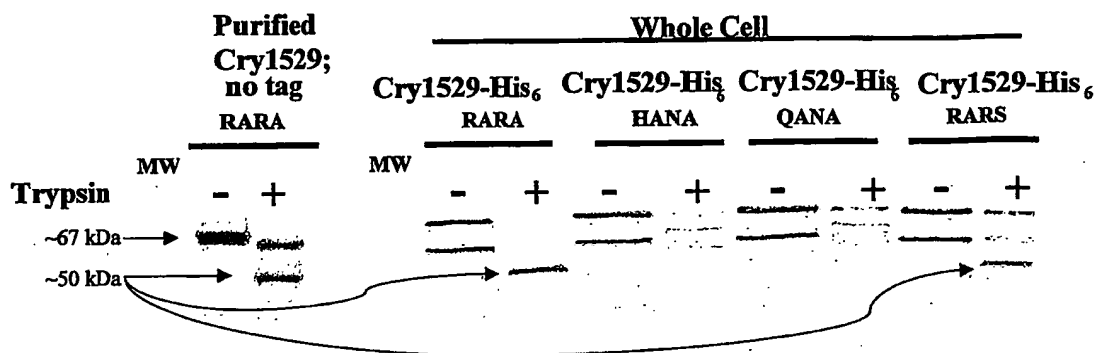


Fig. 8.

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**FIG. 9**

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**Fig. 10**

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		501		550
tcaA2-1529	(500)	AGTCGCTGATCCTCAATAATGACAATATGAACCGAGAGGTAT	<u>CTTCTCTG</u>	
tcaA1-1529	(485)	AGTCGCTGATCCTCAATAATGACAATATGAACCGTGAGGTGT	<u>CTTCCCTG</u>	
tcaA-W14	(485)	AGGATCTGATATTAAGCGAAACGACGATGAATAAAGAGGTCA	<u>CTTCCCTT</u>	
		551		600
tcaA2-1529	(550)	<u>GATATCCTTCTGGATGTGCT</u>	GCAGCCCGAAGGCTCTGACACGCTGACATC	
tcaA1-1529	(535)	<u>GATATCCTGCTGGATGTGCT</u>	GCAGTCCGAAGGCTCCGGCACACTGACATC	
tcaA-W14	(535)	<u>GATATCTTGTGGATGTGCT</u>	ACAAA---AAGCGGTAAGATATTACTGA	

SB105

Fig. 11A

		1901		1950
tcaA2-1529	(1824)	GATGCGCAGCACGGGTCTTTCCTTTGAGCAG	<u>TTGGATTGGCTGATTGCCA</u>	
tcaA1-1529	(1788)	GGCGCGCAGCACGGGACTTTCCTTTGAGCAG	<u>TTGGATTGGCTGATTACCA</u>	
tcaA-W14	(1809)	ATCATCCAGACCGGGCTATCATTTGAAGAA	<u>TTGGACTGGCTGATTGCCA</u>	
		1951		2000
tcaA2-1529	(1874)	<u>ATGCCAGCCGT</u>	GCCGTTATCGAACACGGTGGAGAGCTTTTCTGGATAAG	
tcaA1-1529	(1838)	<u>ATACCAGCCGT</u>	GCCGTAATCGAACATGGTGGAGAACTGATTCTGGATAAG	
tcaA-W14	(1859)	<u>ATGCCAGTCGT</u>	AGTGTGCCGGACCACCACGACAAAATTGTGCTGGATAAG	

SB106

Fig. 11B

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		1651		1700
tcaB2-1529	(1611)	GGAGTGGGATGACACGTTGTCCCTGGCAACGACCGACCCGGACGAGATTG		
tcaB-W14	(1557)	CGCATGGGATACACACAGCCC---GCCACCACTGATCCAGATGTGATCG		
tcaB1-1529	(1608)	GGAGTGGGATGACACGTTGTCCCTGGCAACGACCGACCCGGACGAGATTG		
		1701		1750
tcaB2-1529	(1661)	CGATGGCCGACCCGATGCAATACAAGCTGGCTATATTTATTTCACACCATG		
tcaB-W14	(1604)	CTATGGCCGACCCGATGCATTACAAGCTGGCGATATTCCTGCATACCCCTT		
tcaB1-1529	(1658)	CGATGGCCGACCCGATGCAATACAAGCTGGCTATCTTTATTTCACACCTTG		
		SB101		

Fig. 12A

		2051		2100
tcaB2-1529	(1999)	TGGGACAAAATCGATCTGCGTTTATACAATTTGCGCCACAATTTGAGTCT		
tcaB-W14	(1951)	TGGGATAAACTTGAGTTACGCCCTATACAACCTGCGCCACAATCTGAGTCT		
tcaB1-1529	(1996)	TGGGATAAAATCGACCTGCGTCTCTACAATTTACGCCACAATCTGAGCCT		
				SB102
		2101		2150
tcaB2-1529	(2049)	GGACGGTCAGCCGCTTCATTTGCCGCTCTTTGCCGAACCGGTCAATCCGC		
tcaB-W14	(2001)	GGATGGTCAACCGCTAAATCTGCCACTGTATGCCACGCCGGTAGACCCGA		
tcaB1-1529	(2046)	GGACGGTCAGCCGCTTCATTTGCCGCTCTTTACCGAACCGGTCAATCCTC		

Fig. 12B

		2901		2950
tcaB2-1529	(2845)	CTGCAAAGCACCCGCTTTACGAATCAAGCTTTGTATAACTGGATGGCTGG		
tcaB-W14	(2797)	CTGCAAACCACTCGTTTTACCGGGCAGGCACGTGTATAACTGGATGGCCGG		
tcaB1-1529	(2842)	CTGCTAAGCACCCGCTTTACGAATCAAGCTTTGTATAACTGGATGGCCGG		
				SB103
		2951		3000
tcaB2-1529	(2895)	ACGTCTGTCTCTCTATACTATCAAATGTATGACGCCGATTGCCGCTCT		
tcaB-W14	(2847)	TCGTCTCTCCGCGCTCTATTACCAAATGTATGATTCCAATCTGCCAATCT		
tcaB1-1529	(2892)	ACGTCTGTCTCTCTATACTATCAAATGTATGACGCCGATTGCCGCTCT		

Fig. 12C

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		2201		2250
tcaC-1529	(2125)	AGCTCGTTTTGGTAC	CGAAGCTCCACCCAGTATTGGCTGGATGAGAAA	CA
tcdB1-W14	(2149)	CACACCTTGCATTAC	CGTAGCTCTGTCCAGTTCTGGCTGGATGAAAAA	GC
tcdB2-W14	(2128)	CACACCTTGC GTTAC	CGCAGTTCCCTCCAATTCTGGCTGGATGAAAAA	GC
xptC1-Xwi	(2188)	ACCACGCTGTATTAT	CGCAGCTCTGCCCAGTTCTGGCTGGATGAGAAAT	TT
			SB215	

Fig. 13A

		4501		4550
tcaC-1529	(4263)	A	TGGTTTACAGTAAACGAAGATGAAAATGATAC	CATGGACTCATCATTAT
tcdB1-W14	(4380)	G	TGGTTTACCGTGAGTGAGGATGAGAATGATAC	GGCCG-CTGATGCGCTG
tcdB2-W14	(4362)	CT	TGGTTTACTGTCAATGAAGATGAAAATGACAC	AGCCG-CTGAGGTGAAG
xptC1-Xwi	(4428)	CT	TGGTTTGTGGTGAATGAAGATGAAAATGACAC	TGCCG-GTGAAATGACA
			SB217	

Fig. 13B

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		1051		1100
tccC-1529	(1027)	TATCGTTATGAATATGATCCGGTAGGCAAT	ATCCTTTCTATTTACAATGA	
tccC1-W14	(973)	CTACGCTATAAGTATGATCCGGTGGGGAAT	GTTATCAGTATCCATAATGA	
tccC2-W14	(940)	TTACGCTATCAATATGACCCGGTAGGCAAT	GTGATCAATATCCGTAATGA	
tccC3-W14	(961)	CTGCGCTATGAATATGACCCGGTAGGCAAT	GTCATCAGCATCCGTAATGA	
tccC4-W14	(961)	CTACGCTATGAACATGATCCTGTAGGGAAT	ATTATTAGTGTCCGTAATGA	
tccC5-W14	(955)	CTACGCTATCAATATGACCCAGTAGGCAAT	GTCATTAGTATCCGTAATGA	
xptB1-Xwi	(973)	CTGCGTTATGAATATGATCCTGTCGGAAAT	GTGCTGAAATCAACTAATGA	

SB212

Fig. 14A

		1951		2000
tccC-1529	(1903)	TACAAGACCATCGCTATTTCAGGCAAAGAGCGGGATG	CCACAGGCCTGTA	
tccC1-W14	(1861)	TACAAATTTATTCGTTACTCCGGTAAAGAGCGGGATG	CCACTGGATTGTA	
tccC2-W14	(1807)	TATAAAACGATTTCGCTATTCCGGCAAAGAACGAGATG	CCACCGGGTTGTA	
tccC3-W14	(1849)	TATAAACTATTCGTTATTTCAGGCAAAGAGCGGGATG	CCACCGGGCTATA	
tccC4-W14	(1849)	TACAAAATCCTTCGTTACTCAGGTAAAGAACGCGATG	CTACCGGGCTCTA	
tccC5-W14	(1822)	TATAAAACCATTTCGTTATTCTGGTAAAGAGCGGGATG	TTACCGGGCTGTA	
xptB1-Xwi	(1855)	TACAAAACCGTTCGTTATTCTGGCAAAGAGCGGGATG	CAACAGGGTTGTA	

SB213

Fig. 14B

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Asn Leu Ala Glu Phe Gln Lys Ser Asn Pro Glu Ile Pro Ser Ser Asp
 35 40 45

Ala Lys Glu Ile His Gln Leu Ala Val Gln Arg Thr Glu Asn Leu Cys
 50 55 60

Met Leu Tyr Lys Ala Trp Gln Leu His Asn Asp Pro Val Val Gln Ser
 65 70 75 80

Leu Pro Lys Leu Ser Ala Asp Thr Gly Leu Arg Gly Met Arg Ala Ala
 85 90 95

Leu Glu Arg Ser Leu Gly Gly Gly Ala Asp Phe Gly Asp Leu Phe Pro
 100 105 110

Glu Arg Ser Pro Glu Gly Tyr Ala Glu Ala Ser Ser Ile Gln Ser Leu
 115 120 125

Phe Ser Pro Gly Arg Tyr Leu Thr Val Leu Tyr Lys Ile Ala Gln Asp
 130 135 140

Leu His Asp Pro Lys Asp Lys Leu His Ile Asp Asn Arg Arg Pro Asp
 145 150 155 160

Leu Lys Ser Leu Ile Leu Asn Asn Asp Asn Met Asn Arg Glu Val Ser
 165 170 175

Ser Leu Asp Ile Leu Leu Asp Val Leu Gln Ser Glu Gly Ser Gly Thr
 180 185 190

Leu Thr Ser Leu Lys Asp Thr Tyr Tyr Pro Met Thr Leu Pro Tyr Asp
 195 200 205

Asp Asp Leu Ala Gln Ile Asn Ala Val Ala Glu Ala Arg Ser Ser Asn
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Leu Leu Gly Ile Trp Asp Thr Leu Leu Asp Thr Gln Arg Thr Ser Ile
 225 230 235 240

Leu Gln Asp Ser Ala Ala Val His Arg Ile Ser Lys Pro Arg His Ser
 245 250 255

Ala Tyr Val Asn Gln Arg Val Ser Asp Asp Glu Pro Val Leu Ile Ala
 260 265 270

Gly Glu Glu Phe Tyr Leu Glu Thr Gly Gly Val Ala Asp Thr Thr Pro
 275 280 285

23

Ser Pro Pro Thr Arg Glu Ala Leu Ser Leu Thr Pro Asn Ser Phe Arg
 290 295 300

Leu Leu Val Asn Pro Glu Pro Thr Ala Asp Asp Ile Ala Asn His Tyr
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Asn Val Lys Thr Gln Asp Pro Ala Ala Leu Ala Ala Val Leu Asn Val
 325 330 335

Val Asp Asp Phe Cys Leu Lys Thr Gly Leu Ser Phe Asn Glu Leu Leu
 340 345 350

Asp Leu Thr Met Gln Lys Asp Asp Glu Ser Ile Gly Ser Glu Tyr Lys
 355 360 365

Ser Arg Phe Val Lys Phe Gly Gly Glu Ala Asn Val Pro Val Ser Thr
 370 375 380

Tyr Gly Ala Val Phe Leu Thr Gly Thr Glu Glu Thr Pro Leu Trp Val
 385 390 395 400

Gly Lys Gly Ala Val Ile Ser Pro Ala Ala Asp Ala Tyr Val Arg Asn
 405 410 415

Gly Thr Tyr Ala Asn Thr Asn Tyr Gly Ser Asp Thr Ser Leu Val Val
 420 425 430

Lys Gln Asp Gly Ser Ser Gly Tyr Ser Arg Glu Ala Tyr Ile Arg Phe
 435 440 445

Asp Leu Thr Gly Leu Ser Gly Val Val Glu Glu Ala Lys Ile Ser Leu
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Thr Thr Arg Ala Lys Gln Leu Ser Ser Leu Arg His Gln Ala His Leu
 465 470 475 480

Val Ser Asp Asn Ser Trp Asp Glu Leu Lys Ile Thr Trp Asn Asn Lys
 485 490 495

Pro Ala Gly Gly Ala Ile Ile Ala Ser Trp Asp Val Pro Glu Val Gly
 500 505 510

Glu Asn Val Lys Val Asp Val Thr Arg Gln Val Asn Asp Ala Leu Ala
 515 520 525

24

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Ala Ser Arg Pro Ser Met Glu Ile Lys Ala Ile Thr Gly Ala Gly Leu
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Asn Phe Thr Ala Asp Asn Val Val Ala Leu Ala Gly Arg Ala Glu Lys
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Leu Val Arg Leu Ala Arg Ser Thr Gly Leu Ser Phe Glu Gln Leu Asp
 595 600 605

Trp Leu Ile Thr Asn Thr Ser Arg Ala Val Ile Glu His Gly Gly Glu
 610 615 620

Leu Ile Leu Asp Lys Pro Val Leu Glu Ser Val Ala Glu Phe Thr Arg
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Leu His Lys Arg Tyr Gly Ile Thr Ala Asp Met Phe Ala Ala Phe Ile
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Gly Glu Val Asn Thr Tyr Ala Glu Ala Gly Lys Glu Ser Phe Tyr Gln
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Thr Ile Phe Ser Thr Ala Asp His Ser Ala Ala Leu Pro Leu Gly Ala
 675 680 685

Thr Leu Gln Phe Glu Val Ser Lys Gln Asp Arg Tyr Glu Ala Ile Cys
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Cys Gly Ala Met Gly Val Thr Ala Asp Glu Phe Ser Arg Ile Gly Lys
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Tyr Cys Phe Gly Asp Asn Ala Gln Gln Val Thr Ala Asn Glu Thr Thr
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Val Ala Gln Leu Tyr Arg Leu Gly Arg Ile Pro His Met Leu Gly Leu
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Arg Phe Thr Glu Ala Glu Leu Leu Trp Lys Leu Met Ala Gly Gly Glu
 755 760 765

Asp Thr Leu Leu Arg Thr Ile Gly Ala Lys Pro Arg Ser Leu Gln Ala

25

770

775

780

Leu Glu Ile Ile Arg Arg Thr Glu Val Leu Leu Asp Trp Met Asp Ala
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His Gln Leu Asp Val Val Ser Leu Gln Ala Met Val Thr Asn Arg Tyr
 805 810 815

Ser Gly Thr Ala Thr Pro Glu Leu Tyr Asn Phe Leu Ala Gln Val His
 820 825 830

Gln Ser Thr Ser Ser Ala Ala Asn Val Ser Lys Ala Asp Ala Gln Asp
 835 840 845

Thr Leu Pro Ala Asp Lys Leu Phe Arg Ala Leu Ala Val Gly Phe Asn
 850 855 860

Leu Lys Ala Asn Val Met Ala Gln Val Ile Asp Trp Leu Asp Lys Thr
 865 870 875 880

Asp Gly Ala Phe Thr Leu Arg Ala Phe Trp Asp Lys Leu Gln Ala Tyr
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Phe Ser Ala Asp His Glu Glu Glu Leu Thr Ala Leu Glu Gly Glu Ala
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Asp Leu Leu Gln Trp Cys Gln Gln Ile Ser Gln Tyr Ala Leu Ile Val
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Arg Trp Cys Gly Leu Ser Asp Gln Asp Leu Ala Leu Leu Thr Gly His
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Pro Gly Gln Leu Leu Ser Gly Gln His Thr Val Pro Val Pro Ser Leu
 945 950 955 960

His Leu Leu Leu Val Leu Thr Arg Leu Lys Glu Trp Gln Gln Arg Val
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Gln Val Ser Ser Glu Glu Ala Met Arg Tyr Phe Ala Gln Ala Asp Ala
 980 985 990

Pro Thr Val Thr Arg Asp Ala Ala Val Lys Leu Leu Ala Arg Ile His
 995 1000 1005

Gly Trp Asn Glu Gln Asp Thr Ala Ser Met Asn Asp Tyr Leu Leu
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Gly Glu Asn Glu Tyr Pro Lys Asn Phe Glu Gln Ile Phe Thr Leu
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Glu Ser Trp Val Asn Leu Gly Arg Gln Leu Asn Val Gly Ser Arg
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Thr Leu Gly Glu Leu Val Asp Met Ser Glu Glu Asp Asp Thr Ala
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Ala Val Gln Ala
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28

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<211> 1205

<212> PRT

<213> Paenibacillus strain IDAS 1529

<400> 5

Met Thr Lys Glu Gly Gly Lys Asn Met Ser Thr Ser Thr Leu Leu Gln
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Asn Asn Val Pro Arg Glu Leu Thr Asp Lys Ile Thr Asp Ala Asp Ser
 35 40 45

Leu Tyr Glu Tyr Leu Leu Leu Asp Thr Lys Ile Ser Glu Leu Val Lys
 50 55 60

Thr Ser Pro Ile Ala Glu Ala Ile Ser Ser Val Gln Leu Tyr Met Asn
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Arg Cys Val Glu Gly Tyr Glu Gly Lys Leu Thr Pro Glu Gly Asn Ser
 85 90 95

His Phe Gly Pro Gly Lys Phe Leu Asn Asn Trp Asp Thr Tyr Asn Lys

29

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Ser Tyr Ile Asp Pro Ser Leu Arg Tyr Asn Lys Thr Asp Pro Phe Leu		
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Asn Leu Glu Gln Asn Ile Ser Gln Gly Arg Ile Thr Asp Asp Thr Val		
145	150	155
Lys Asn Ala Leu Gln His Tyr Leu Thr Glu Tyr Glu Val Leu Ala Asp		
165	170	175
Leu Glu Tyr Ile Ser Val Asn Lys Gly Ala Asp Glu Ser Val Leu Phe		
180	185	190
Phe Val Gly Arg Thr Lys Thr Met Pro Tyr Glu Tyr Tyr Trp Arg Arg		
195	200	205
Leu Thr Leu Lys Lys Asp Asn Asn Asn Lys Leu Val Pro Ala Ile Trp		
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Ser Gln Trp Lys Lys Ile Thr Ala Asn Ile Gly Glu Ala Val Asn Asn		
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Tyr Val Val Leu His Trp His Asn Asn Arg Leu His Val Gln Trp Gly		
245	250	255
Ser Thr Glu Lys Thr Gln Asn Asp Asp Gly Glu Pro Ile Glu Lys Arg		
260	265	270
Tyr Leu Asn Asp Trp Phe Met Asp Lys Ser Ser Val Trp Ser Ser Phe		
275	280	285
Arg Lys Val Ser Tyr Ile Glu Asn Ser Phe Thr Tyr Thr Glu Gly Ile		
290	295	300
Ile Asp Ser Arg Asn Ile Thr Ile Ala Gly Asn Gln Leu Phe Cys Asp		
305	310	315
Asp Ser Asn Thr Phe Lys Ala Thr Ile Thr Ala Leu Pro Phe Asp Gln		
325	330	335
Ile Arg Val Tyr Leu Glu Lys Ile Tyr Gly Thr Gly Gly Ser Ile Thr		
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Val Thr Gly Glu Asn Lys Gly Tyr Ile Ile Lys Val Gly Glu Pro Arg
 355 360 365

Glu Val Ser Phe Ser Pro Asn Thr Leu Leu Asp Val Phe Ile Gly Ser
 370 375 380

Asn Ala Ser Pro Arg Asp Pro Tyr Phe Lys Ala Thr Phe Asn Arg Glu
 385 390 395 400

Ala Leu Gln Asn Ser Tyr Gly Ser Ile Lys Ile Asn Gln Tyr Thr Pro
 405 410 415

Pro Ser Gly Ser Asn Ile Lys Gly Pro Ile Asp Leu Thr Leu Lys Asn
 420 425 430

Asn Ile Asp Leu Ser Ala Leu Leu Glu Glu Ser Leu Asp Val Leu Phe
 435 440 445

Asp Tyr Thr Ile Gln Gly Asn Asn Gln Leu Gly Gly Leu Glu Ala Phe
 450 455 460

Asn Gly Pro Tyr Gly Leu Tyr Leu Trp Glu Ile Phe Leu His Val Pro
 465 470 475 480

Phe Leu Met Ala Val Arg Phe His Thr Glu Gln Arg Tyr Glu Leu Ala
 485 490 495

Glu Arg Trp Phe Lys Phe Ile Phe Asn Ser Ala Gly Tyr Arg Asp Gly
 500 505 510

Tyr Gly Asn Leu Leu Thr Asp Asp Lys Gly Asn Val Arg Tyr Trp Asn
 515 520 525

Val Val Pro Leu Gln Glu Asp Thr Glu Trp Asp Asp Thr Leu Ser Leu
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Ala Thr Thr Asp Pro Asp Glu Ile Ala Met Ala Asp Pro Met Gln Tyr
 545 550 555 560

Lys Leu Ala Ile Phe Ile His Thr Leu Asp Phe Leu Ile Ser Arg Gly
 565 570 575

Asp Ser Leu Tyr Arg Met Leu Glu Arg Asp Thr Leu Thr Glu Ala Lys
 580 585 590

31

Met Tyr Tyr Ile Gln Ala Ser Gln Leu Leu Gly Pro Arg Pro Glu Ile
 595 600 605

Arg Ile Asn His Ser Trp Pro Asp Pro Thr Leu Gln Ser Glu Ala Asp
 610 615 620

Ala Val Thr Ala Val Pro Thr Arg Ser Asp Ser Pro Ala Ala Pro Ile
 625 630 635 640

Leu Ala Leu Arg Ala Leu Leu Asn Ala Glu Asn Gly His Phe Leu Pro
 645 650 655

Pro Tyr Asn Asp Glu Leu Leu Ala Phe Trp Asp Lys Ile Asp Leu Arg
 660 665 670

Leu Tyr Asn Leu Arg His Asn Leu Ser Leu Asp Gly Gln Pro Leu His
 675 680 685

Leu Pro Leu Phe Thr Glu Pro Val Asn Pro Arg Glu Leu Gln Val Gln
 690 695 700

His Gly Ala Gly Asp Gly Leu Gly Gly Ser Ala Gly Ser Val Gln Ser
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Arg Gln Ser Val Tyr Arg Phe Pro Leu Val Ile Asp Lys Ala Arg Asn
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Ala Ala Ser Ser Val Ile Gln Phe Gly Asn Ala Leu Glu Asn Ala Leu
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Thr Lys Gln Asp Ser Glu Ala Met Thr Met Leu Leu Gln Ser Gln Gln
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Gln Ile Val Leu Gln Gln Thr Arg Asp Ile Gln Glu Lys Asn Leu Ala
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Ser Leu Gln Ala Ser Leu Glu Ala Thr Met Thr Ala Lys Ala Gly Ala
 785 790 795 800

Lys Ser Arg Lys Thr His Phe Ala Gly Leu Ala Asp Asn Trp Met Ser
 805 810 815

His Asn Glu Thr Ala Ser Leu Ala Leu Arg Thr Thr Ala Gly Ile Ile
 820 825 830

32

Asn Thr Ser Ser Thr Val Pro Ile Ala Ile Thr Gly Gly Leu Asp Met
835 840 845

Ala Pro Asn Ile Phe Gly Phe Ala Val Gly Gly Ser Arg Trp Gly Ala
850 855 860

Ala Ser Ala Ala Val Ala Gln Gly Leu Gln Ile Ala Ala Gly Val Met
865 870 875 880

Glu Gln Thr Ala Asn Ile Ile Asp Ile Ser Glu Ser Tyr Arg Arg Arg
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Arg Glu Asp Trp Leu Leu Gln Arg Asp Val Ala Glu Asn Glu Ala Ala
900 905 910

Gln Leu Asp Ser Gln Ile Ala Ala Leu Arg Glu Gln Met Asp Met Ala
915 920 925

Arg Lys Gln Leu Ala Leu Ala Glu Thr Glu Gln Ala His Ala Gln Ala
930 935 940

Val Tyr Glu Leu Leu Ser Thr Arg Phe Thr Asn Gln Ala Leu Tyr Asn
945 950 955 960

Trp Met Ala Gly Arg Leu Ser Ser Leu Tyr Tyr Gln Met Tyr Asp Ala
965 970 975

Ala Leu Pro Leu Cys Leu Met Ala Lys Gln Ala Leu Glu Lys Glu Ile
980 985 990

Gly Asn Asp Lys Thr Val Gly Ile Phe Thr Leu Pro Ala Trp Asn Asp
995 1000 1005

Leu Tyr Gln Gly Leu Leu Ala Gly Glu Ala Leu Leu Leu Glu Leu
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Gln Lys Leu Glu Asn Leu Trp Leu Glu Glu Asp Lys Arg Gly Met
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Glu Ala Val Arg Thr Val Ser Leu Asp Thr Leu Leu Arg Lys Glu
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Lys Pro Glu Ser Gly Phe Ala Asp Phe Val Lys Glu Val Leu Asp
1055 1060 1065

Gly Lys Thr Pro Asp Pro Val Ser Gly Val Ser Val Gln Leu Gln

33

1070 1075 1080

Asn Asn Ile Phe Ser Ala Thr Leu Asp Leu Ser Thr Leu Gly Leu
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Asp Arg Phe Tyr Asn Gln Ala Glu Lys Ala His Arg Ile Lys Asn
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Leu Ser Val Thr Leu Pro Ala Leu Leu Gly Pro Tyr Gln Asp Ile
1115 1120 1125

Ala Ala Thr Leu Ser Leu Gly Gly Glu Thr Val Ala Leu Ser His
1130 1135 1140

Gly Val Asp Asp Ser Gly Leu Phe Ile Thr Asp Leu Asn Asp Ser
1145 1150 1155

Arg Phe Leu Pro Phe Glu Gly Met Asp Pro Leu Ser Gly Thr Leu
1160 1165 1170

Val Leu Ser Ile Leu His Ala Gly Gln Asp Gly Asp Gln Arg Leu
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Leu Leu Glu Ser Leu Asn Asp Val Ile Phe His Ile Arg Tyr Val
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Met Lys
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<212> DNA
<213> Paenibacillus strain IDAS 1529

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34

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Ile Pro Ser Ser Asp Ala Lys Glu Ile His Gln Leu Ala Val Gln Arg
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Thr Glu Asn Leu Cys Met Leu Tyr Lys Ala Trp Gln Leu His Asn Asp
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Pro Val Val Gln Ser Leu Pro Lys Leu Ser Ala Asp Thr Gly Leu Gln
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Gly Met Arg Ala Ala Leu Glu Arg Ser Leu Gly Gly Gly Ala Asp Phe
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Gly Asp Leu Phe Pro Glu Arg Ser Pro Glu Gly Tyr Ala Glu Ala Ser
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Ser Ile Gln Ser Leu Phe Ser Pro Gly Arg Tyr Leu Thr Val Leu Tyr
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Lys Ile Ala Arg Asp Leu His Asp Pro Lys Asp Lys Leu His Ile Asp
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Asn Arg Arg Pro Asp Leu Lys Ser Leu Ile Leu Asn Asn Asp Asn Met
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Asn Arg Glu Val Ser Ser Leu Asp Ile Leu Leu Asp Val Leu Gln Pro
 180 185 190

Glu Gly Ser Asp Thr Leu Thr Ser Leu Lys Asp Thr Tyr His Pro Met
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Thr Leu Pro Tyr Asp Asp Asp Leu Ala Gln Ile Asn Ala Val Ala Glu
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Ala Arg Ser Ser Asn Leu Leu Gly Ile Trp Asp Thr Leu Leu Asp Thr
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Gln Arg Thr Ser Ile Leu Gln Asn Ser Ala Ala Ala Arg Arg Ile Ser
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Lys Ala Arg His Ser Ala Tyr Ala Asn Gln Lys Ala Ser Asn Asp Glu
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Arg Leu Phe Leu Ala His Lys Leu Glu Ile Gly Ser Thr Ile Ser Ala
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Lys Ile Asn Ile Gly Pro Pro Gln Ala Ala Asp Ile Ala Pro Ala Lys
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Leu Gln Leu Val Tyr Tyr Gly Arg Gly Gly Arg Gly Asn Tyr Phe Leu

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 Cys Leu Met Ile Asn Arg Gly Thr Gly Ser Met Pro Ser Gly Thr His
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 Val Pro Asp His Gly Tyr Leu Gly Leu Gly Glu Ser Leu Ala Ser Asn
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 Phe Thr Leu Arg Lys Lys Glu Thr Gly Asn Asp Thr Ile Ser Ile Ile
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Asp Asn Val Val Ala Leu Ala Gly Arg Ala Glu Lys Leu Val Arg Leu
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Met Arg Ser Thr Gly Leu Ser Phe Glu Gln Leu Asp Trp Leu Ile Ala
 610 615 620

Asn Ala Ser Arg Ala Val Ile Glu His Gly Gly Glu Leu Phe Leu Asp
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Lys Pro Val Leu Glu Ala Val Ala Glu Phe Thr Arg Leu Asn Lys Arg
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Thr Tyr Thr Glu Ala Gly Lys Asp Ser Phe Tyr Gln Ala Ser Phe Ser
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Glu Val Ser Lys Gln Asp Arg Tyr Glu Ala Ile Cys Cys Gly Ala Met
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Gly Val Thr Ala Asp Glu Phe Ser Arg Ile Gly Lys Tyr Cys Phe Gly
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Asp Lys Ala Gln Gln Ile Thr Ala Asn Glu Thr Thr Val Ala Gln Leu
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Tyr Arg Leu Gly Arg Ile Pro His Met Leu Gly Leu Arg Phe Thr Glu
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Ala Glu Leu Leu Trp Lys Leu Met Ala Gly Gly Glu Asp Thr Leu Leu
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Arg Thr Ile Gly Ala Asn Pro Arg Ser Leu Glu Ala Leu Glu Ile Ile
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Arg Arg Thr Glu Val Leu Leu Asp Trp Met Asp Ala His Gln Leu Asp
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Val Val Ser Leu Gln Ala Met Val Thr Asn Arg Tyr Ser Gly Thr Ala
 820 825 830

Thr Pro Glu Leu Tyr Asn Phe Leu Ala Gln Val His Gln Ser Ala Ser
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Ser Ala Ala Asn Val Ala Arg Ala Asp Gly Gln Asp Thr Leu Pro Ala
 850 855 860

Asp Lys Leu Leu Arg Ala Leu Ala Ala Gly Phe Lys Leu Lys Ala Asn
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Val Met Ala Arg Val Ile Asp Trp Met Asp Lys Thr Asn Lys Ala Phe
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Thr Leu Arg Ala Phe Trp Asp Lys Leu Gln Ala Tyr Phe Ser Ala Asp
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His Glu Glu Glu Leu Thr Ala Leu Glu Gly Glu Ala Ala Met Leu Gln
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Trp Cys Gln Gln Ile Ser Gln Tyr Ala Leu Ile Val Arg Trp Cys Gly
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Leu Ser Glu Gln Asp Leu Ala Leu Leu Thr Gly Asn Pro Glu Gln Leu
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Leu Asp Gly Gln His Thr Val Pro Val Pro Ser Leu His Leu Leu Leu
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Val Leu Thr Arg Leu Lys Glu Trp Gln Gln Arg Val Gln Val Ser Ser
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Glu Glu Ala Met Arg Tyr Phe Ala Gln Ala Asp Ser Pro Thr Val Thr
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Glu Tyr Pro Lys Asn Phe Asp Gln Ile Phe Ala Leu Glu Ser Trp
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Thr Ser Pro Ile Ala Glu Ala Ile Ser Ser Val Gln Leu Tyr Met Asn
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Arg Cys Val Glu Gly Tyr Glu Gly Lys Leu Thr Pro Glu Ser Asn Thr
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His Phe Gly Pro Gly Lys Phe Leu Tyr Asn Trp Asp Thr Tyr Asn Lys
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Arg Phe Ser Thr Trp Ala Gly Lys Glu Arg Leu Lys Tyr Tyr Ala Gly
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43

Ser Tyr Ile Glu Pro Ser Leu Arg Tyr Asn Lys Thr Asp Pro Phe Leu
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Lys Asn Ala Leu Gln His Tyr Leu Thr Glu Tyr Glu Val Leu Ala Asp
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Leu Asp Tyr Ile Ser Val Asn Lys Gly Gly Asp Glu Ser Val Leu Leu
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Phe Val Gly Arg Thr Lys Thr Val Pro Tyr Glu Tyr Tyr Trp Arg Arg
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Leu Leu Leu Lys Arg Asp Asn Asn Asn Lys Leu Val Pro Ala Val Trp
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Ser Gln Trp Lys Lys Ile Ser Ala Asn Ile Gly Glu Ala Val Asp Ser
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Tyr Val Val Pro Arg Trp His Lys Asn Arg Leu His Val Gln Trp Cys
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Ser Ile Glu Lys Ser Glu Asn Asp Ala Gly Glu Pro Ile Glu Lys Arg
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Tyr Leu Asn Asp Trp Phe Met Asp Ser Ser Gly Val Trp Ser Ser Phe
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Glu Pro Glu Ile Phe Arg Ile Thr Val Ser Ala Pro Asn Pro Ile Asp
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Ala Asn Gly Arg Val Glu Val His Phe Glu Glu Asn Tyr Ala Asn Arg
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Tyr Asn Ile Thr Ile Lys Tyr Gly Thr Thr Ser Leu Ala Ile Pro Ala
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Gly Gln Val Gly His Pro Asn Ile Ser Ile Asn Glu Thr Leu Arg Val
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Glu Phe Gly Thr Arg Pro Asp Trp Tyr Tyr Thr Phe Arg Tyr Leu Gly
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Pro Pro Ser Gly Ser Asn Ile Lys Gly Pro Ile Asp Leu Thr Leu Lys
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Asn Asn Ile Asp Leu Ser Ala Leu Leu Asp Glu Ser Leu Asp Ala Leu
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Phe Asp Tyr Thr Ile Gln Gly Asp Asn Gln Leu Gly Gly Leu Ala Ala
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Phe Asn Gly Pro Tyr Gly Leu Tyr Leu Trp Glu Ile Phe Phe His Val
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Pro Phe Leu Met Ala Val Arg Phe His Thr Glu Gln Arg Tyr Glu Leu
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Ala Glu Arg Trp Phe Lys Phe Ile Phe Asn Ser Ala Gly Tyr Arg Asp
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Asp Tyr Gly Ser Leu Leu Thr Asp Asp Lys Gly Asn Val Arg Tyr Trp
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Gly Asp Ser Leu Tyr Arg Met Leu Glu Arg Asp Thr Leu Ala Glu Ala
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Lys Met Tyr Tyr Ile Gln Ala Ser Gln Leu Leu Gly Pro Arg Pro Asp
 595 600 605

Ile Arg Leu Asn His Ser Trp Pro Asn Pro Thr Leu Gln Ser Glu Ala

610

615

620

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Pro Pro Tyr Asn Asp Glu Leu Phe Ala Phe Trp Asp Lys Ile Asp Leu
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Arg Leu Tyr Asn Leu Arg His Asn Leu Ser Leu Asp Gly Gln Pro Leu
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His Leu Pro Leu Phe Ala Glu Pro Val Asn Pro Arg Glu Leu Gln Val
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Gln His Gly Pro Gly Asp Gly Leu Gly Gly Ser Ala Gly Ser Ala Gln
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785 790 795 800

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Ser Asp Asn Glu Thr Ala Ser Leu Ala Leu Arg Thr Thr Ala Gly Ile
820 825 830

Ile Asn Thr Ser Ser Thr Val Pro Ile Ala Ile Thr Gly Gly Leu Asp
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Met Ala Pro Asn Ile Phe Gly Phe Ala Val Gly Gly Ser Arg Trp Gly
850 855 860

46

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Ala Val Tyr Glu Leu Gln Ser Thr Arg Phe Thr Asn Gln Ala Leu Tyr
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Ile Gly Ser Asp Lys Thr Val Gly Val Leu Ser Leu Pro Ala Trp Asn
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Gly Thr Leu Val Leu Ser Ile Phe His Ala Gly Gln Asp Gly Asp
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48

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Ser Gly Arg Tyr Ile Thr Pro Asp Ile Ser Leu Ser Tyr Ala Ser Gly
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His Gly Asn Gly Ala Tyr Gly Met Gly Trp Thr Met Gly Val Met Ser
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Ile Ser Arg Arg Thr Ser Arg Gly Thr Pro Ser Tyr Thr Ser Glu Asp
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Gln Phe Leu Gly Pro Asp Gly Glu Val Leu Val Pro Glu Ser Asn Glu
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Phe Lys Glu Leu Gly Gly Glu Pro Ala Leu Val Trp Arg Met Gln Leu
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Glu Tyr Asp Glu Asn Pro Ala Ala Ser Met Leu Ser Ala Val Arg Gln
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Ala Tyr Asn Ser Trp Arg Pro Leu Pro His Ile Pro Val Asn Ser Arg
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52

Asn Gly Met Leu Met Asp Leu Asn Gly Asp Gly Tyr Leu Glu Trp Leu
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His Pro Gln Ala Gln Leu Ala Asn Val Thr Gly Ser Gly Leu Thr Asp
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Leu Val Met Ile Gly Pro Lys Ser Val Arg Phe Tyr Ala Gly Glu Glu
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Val Tyr Leu Val Asp Leu Asp Gly Ser Gly Ala Ser Asp Ile Ile Tyr
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Ala Ser Arg Asp Ala Leu Leu Ile Tyr Arg Asn Leu Ser Gly Asn Gly
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Phe Ala Asp Pro Val Arg Val Pro Leu Pro Asp Gly Val Arg Phe Asp
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Asn Leu Cys Arg Leu Leu Pro Ala Asp Ile Arg Gly Leu Gly Val Ala
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Ser Leu Val Leu His Val Pro Tyr Met Ala Pro Arg Ser Trp Lys Leu
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Asp Phe Phe Ala Ala Lys Pro Tyr Leu Leu Gln Thr Val Ser Asn Asn

53

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Leu Asp Glu Lys Gln Ala Ala Ser Ser Ala Val Ser Ala Leu Pro Phe
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Pro Ile Asn Val Val Ser Asp Met His Thr Val Asp Glu Ile Ser Gly
 740 745 750

Arg Thr Arg Thr Gln Lys Tyr Thr Tyr Arg His Gly Val Tyr Asp Arg
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Thr Glu Lys Glu Phe Ala Gly Phe Gly Arg Ile Asp Thr Trp Glu Glu
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Glu Arg Asp Ser Glu Gly Thr Leu Ser Val Ser Thr Pro Pro Val Leu
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Val Gln Gln Tyr Trp Gln Gly Asp Pro Ala Ala Phe Gln Val Lys Pro
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Val Arg Leu Thr Arg Phe Asp Ala Ala Ala Ala Gln Asp Leu Pro Leu
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Gly Met Pro Leu Arg Thr Glu Ile Phe Ala Gly Asp Val Gly Gly Ser
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Pro Pro Tyr Gln Val Glu Ser Phe Arg Tyr Gln Val Arg Leu Val Gln
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Ser Ile Asp Ser Glu Cys Val Ala Leu Pro Met Gln Leu Glu Gln Leu
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Ile Gln Tyr Pro Arg Arg Ala Gln Pro Glu Asp Asn Pro Tyr Pro Arg
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Pro Glu Gly Trp Arg Leu Asn Ile Pro His Gln Thr Arg Leu Asp Ala
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Glu Pro Asp Leu Arg Ala Leu Val His Tyr Thr Arg Ser Ala Val
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Leu Asp Glu Asp Cys Leu Gln Ala Tyr Glu Gly Val Leu Ser Asp
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 1160 1165 1170

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Pro Val	Ala Ser	Cys Cys	Val Tyr	Asp Ala	His Ser	Trp Met	Gly
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Thr Ile	Thr Leu	Ala Gln	Leu Ser	Glu Leu	Val Pro	Asp Ser	Glu
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Lys Gln	Trp Ser	Phe Leu	Ile Asp	Asn Arg	Leu Ile	Met Pro	Asp
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Gly Arg	Ile Arg	Ser Arg	Gly Arg	Asp Pro	Trp Ser	Leu His	Arg
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Leu Leu	Pro Pro	Ala Val	Gly Glu	Leu Leu	Ser Glu	Ala Asp	Arg
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Lys Pro	Pro His	Thr Val	Ile Leu	Ala Ala	Asp Arg	Tyr Pro	Asp
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Ala Ile	Ala Glu	Arg Val	Asp Tyr	Asp Gly	Thr Gly	Ala Val	Ile
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<212> DNA

<213> Paenibacillus strain IDAS 1529

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<213> Paenibacillus strain IDAS 1529

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Trp Ala Ser Leu Leu Ala Ala Glu Ala Tyr Asp Thr Ser Trp Arg Tyr
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Asp Ala Gln Asp Arg Val Leu Ala Gln Thr Asp Ala Lys Gly Asn Leu
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59

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Asp Thr Arg Asn Gln Leu Ser Arg Val His Met Val Val Arg Glu Gly
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Gly Asp Asn Asp Trp Glu Gly Tyr Leu Tyr Asp Ser Ser Gly Met Arg
 485 490 495

Ile Val Lys Arg Ser Thr Arg Lys Thr Gln Thr Thr Thr Gln Thr Asp
 500 505 510

Thr Thr Leu Tyr Leu Pro Gly Leu Glu Leu Arg Ile Arg Gln Thr Gly
 515 520 525

Asp Arg Val Thr Glu Ala Leu Gln Val Ile Thr Val Asp Glu Gly Ala
 530 535 540

Gly Gln Val Arg Val Leu His Trp Glu Asp Gly Thr Glu Pro Gly Gly
 545 550 555 560

Ile Ala Asn Asp Gln Tyr Arg Tyr Ser Leu Asn Asp His Leu Thr Ser
 565 570 575

Ser Leu Leu Glu Val Asp Gly Gln Gly Gln Ile Ile Ser Lys Glu Glu
 580 585 590

Phe Tyr Pro Tyr Gly Gly Thr Ala Leu Trp Thr Ala Arg Ser Glu Val
 595 600 605

Glu Ala Ser Tyr Lys Thr Ile Arg Tyr Ser Gly Lys Glu Arg Asp Ala
 610 615 620

Thr Gly Leu Tyr Tyr Tyr Gly His Arg Tyr Tyr Met Pro Trp Leu Gly
 625 630 635 640

Arg Trp Leu Asn Pro Asp Pro Ala Gly Met Val Asp Gly Leu Asn Leu
 645 650 655

Tyr Arg Met Val Arg Asn Asn Pro Ile Gly Leu Met Asp Pro Asn Gly
 660 665 670

Asn Ala Pro Ile Asn Val Ala Asp Tyr Ser Phe Val His Gly Asp Leu
 675 680 685

Val Tyr Gly Leu Ser Lys Glu Arg Gly Arg Tyr Leu Lys Leu Phe Asn
 690 695 700

Pro Asn Phe Asn Met Glu Lys Ser Asp Ser Pro Ala Met Val Ile Asp
 705 710 715 720

Gln Tyr Asn Asn Asn Val Ala Leu Ser Ile Thr Asn Gln Tyr Lys Val

61

725 730 735

Glu Glu Leu Met Lys Phe Gln Lys Asp Pro Gln Lys Ala Ala Arg Lys
 740 745 750

Ile Lys Val Pro Glu Gly Asn Arg Leu Ser Arg Asn Glu Asn Tyr Pro
 755 760 765

Leu Trp His Asp Tyr Ile Asn Ile Gly Glu Ala Lys Ala Ala Phe Lys
 770 775 780

Ala Ser His Ile Phe Gln Glu Val Lys Gly Asn Tyr Gly Lys Asp Tyr
 785 790 795 800

Tyr His Lys Leu Leu Leu Asp Arg Met Ile Glu Ser Pro Leu Leu Trp
 805 810 815

Lys Arg Gly Ser Lys Leu Gly Leu Glu Ile Ala Ala Thr Asn Gln Arg
 820 825 830

Thr Lys Ile His Phe Val Leu Asp Asn Leu Asn Ile Glu Gln Val Val
 835 840 845

Thr Lys Glu Gly Ser Gly Gly Gln Ser Ile Thr Ala Ser Glu Leu Arg
 850 855 860

Tyr Ile Tyr Arg Asn Arg Glu Arg Leu Asn Gly Arg Val Ile Phe Tyr
 865 870 875 880

Arg Asn Asn Glu Arg Leu Asp Gln Ala Pro Trp Gln Glu Asn Pro Asp
 885 890 895

Leu Trp Ser Lys Tyr Gln Pro Gly Leu Arg Gln Ser Ser Ser Ser Arg
 900 905 910

Val Lys Glu Arg Gly Ile Gly Asn Phe Phe Arg Arg Phe Ser Met Lys
 915 920 925

Arg Lys
 930

<210> 14
 <211> 1791
 <212> DNA
 <213> Artificial Sequence
 <220>

62

<223> Nucleic acid sequence of ORF7, which encodes a cry-like protein.

<400> 14

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atgaactcaa atgaaccaaa tttatctgat gttgttaatt gtttaagtga cccaatagat    60
gacttggaga agtctggcgg tggagtagcg ctagatgttg gaatgtcatt gatatccgaa    120
cttcttggta cggttccagt tgctggatca attcttcaat ttgtattcga taaattgtgg    180
tttatttttg gcccttctga gtgggactca cttatggaac atgttgaagc attaattgat    240
agtaaaatac aagagcaggt aaaaagaagt gcacaagatg aactaaatgc aattacaaat    300
aacttatcta cgtatttgaa atttctagat gcatgggaaa atgattctaa taatttaaga    360
gcgagagctg tagtgaaaga ccaatttgta ggccttgaac agactcttga aagaaaaatg    420
gttagtgttt ttggaagtac gggcatgaa gtgcatcttt tgccaatttt cgctcaagca    480
gccaacctcc acctaattct attaagagat gctgagaaat atggaaagag atgggggttg    540
gcagatagag aaattcaagt atattatgat aaccagattc gttatatcca tgaatatacg    600
gaccattgta ttaaataatta taatcaagga ttaagtaaac tgaaagggtc tacctatcaa    660
gattgggata agtataatcg ttttagaaga gaaatgacct taactgttct tgatttgatt    720
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agggaaagtt attcggattt acttattgct aaccctctg ggatgcagac tttcactaat    840
gtagatttcg acaatattct tattagaaaa ctcatttaa tggatttctt aagaactctt    900
gagattttta cggatcgaca taacgcaagc agacacaacg tatattgggg cggacatcga    960
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gaagcaaatg tagaaccctg aacatgggtg agttttggag aatctcaagt ctataatata   1080
cgttcgaagc ctgagtggga tagaggaagt actgcaatta gtggctccta tgaatttcga   1140
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tatttttaga gatctcaagc tgtgggggag acttcgagac agacgttaac aagtgggtccg   1320
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agagttaacg tcaattcacc attatcacag agatatcgta taagaattcg ttacgcttct   1560
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gggaacacta tgcgtaaagg agaccctata acctctcgat cathtagatt tgcggctttt   1680
agtacaccat ttacttttgc tagctcacag gatgaactta gaataaatgt acaaaatttc   1740

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63

aataatggtg aagaagttta tatagataga atcgaagtta ttccagtttg a

1791

<210> 15

<211> 596

<212> PRT

<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>

<223> Amino acid sequence encoded by ORF7.

<400> 15

Met Asn Ser Asn Glu Pro Asn Leu Ser Asp Val Val Asn Cys Leu Ser
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Asp Pro Asn Ser Asp Leu Glu Lys Ser Gly Gly Gly Val Ala Leu Asp
 20 25 30

Val Gly Met Ser Leu Ile Ser Glu Leu Leu Gly Thr Val Pro Val Ala
 35 40 45

Gly Ser Ile Leu Gln Phe Val Phe Asp Lys Leu Trp Phe Ile Phe Gly
 50 55 60

Pro Ser Glu Trp Asp Ser Leu Met Glu His Val Glu Ala Leu Ile Asp
 65 70 75 80

Ser Lys Ile Gln Glu Gln Val Lys Arg Ser Ala Gln Asp Glu Leu Asn
 85 90 95

Ala Ile Thr Asn Asn Leu Ser Thr Tyr Leu Lys Phe Leu Asp Ala Trp
 100 105 110

Glu Asn Asp Ser Asn Asn Leu Arg Ala Arg Ala Val Val Lys Asp Gln
 115 120 125

Phe Val Gly Leu Glu Gln Thr Leu Glu Arg Lys Met Val Ser Val Phe
 130 135 140

Gly Ser Thr Gly His Glu Val His Leu Leu Pro Ile Phe Ala Gln Ala
 145 150 155 160

Ala Asn Leu His Leu Ile Leu Leu Arg Asp Ala Glu Lys Tyr Gly Lys
 165 170 175

Arg Trp Gly Trp Ala Asp Arg Glu Ile Gln Val Tyr Tyr Asp Asn Gln
 180 185 190

64

Ile Arg Tyr Ile His Glu Tyr Thr Asp His Cys Ile Lys Tyr Tyr Asn
 195 200 205

Gln Gly Leu Ser Lys Leu Lys Gly Ser Thr Tyr Gln Asp Trp Asp Lys
 210 215 220

Tyr Asn Arg Phe Arg Arg Glu Met Thr Leu Thr Val Leu Asp Leu Ile
 225 230 235 240

Ser Ile Phe Pro Ser Tyr Asp Thr Arg Thr Tyr Pro Ile Asp Thr Ile
 245 250 255

Gly Gln Leu Thr Arg Glu Val Tyr Ser Asp Leu Leu Ile Ala Asn Pro
 260 265 270

Ser Gly Met Gln Thr Phe Thr Asn Val Asp Phe Asp Asn Ile Leu Ile
 275 280 285

Arg Lys Pro His Leu Met Asp Phe Leu Arg Thr Leu Glu Ile Phe Thr
 290 295 300

Asp Arg His Asn Ala Ser Arg His Asn Val Tyr Trp Gly Gly His Arg
 305 310 315 320

Val His Ser Ser Tyr Thr Gly Gly Asn Phe Glu Asn Phe Glu Ser Pro
 325 330 335

Leu Tyr Gly Ser Glu Ala Asn Val Glu Pro Arg Thr Trp Leu Ser Phe
 340 345 350

Gly Glu Ser Gln Val Tyr Asn Ile Arg Ser Lys Pro Glu Trp Asp Arg
 355 360 365

Gly Ser Thr Ala Ile Ser Gly Ser Tyr Glu Phe Arg Gly Val Thr Gly
 370 375 380

Cys Ser Phe Tyr Arg Met Gly Asn Phe Ala Gly Thr Val Ala Leu Thr
 385 390 395 400

Tyr Arg Gln Phe Gly Asn Glu Gly Ser Gln Ile Pro Leu His Arg Leu
 405 410 415

Cys His Val Thr Tyr Phe Arg Arg Ser Gln Ala Val Gly Ala Thr Ser
 420 425 430

Arg Gln Thr Leu Thr Ser Gly Pro Leu Phe Ser Trp Thr His Ser Ser

65

435

440

445

Ala Thr Glu Thr Asn Ile Ile His Pro Thr Lys Ile Thr Gln Ile Pro
 450 455 460

Met Val Lys Ala Ser Ser Leu Gly Ser Gly Thr Ser Val Val Gln Gly
 465 470 475 480

Pro Gly Phe Thr Gly Gly Asp Val Leu Arg Arg Asn Ser Pro Gly Ser
 485 490 495

Thr Gly Thr Leu Arg Val Asn Val Asn Ser Pro Leu Ser Gln Arg Tyr
 500 505 510

Arg Ile Arg Ile Arg Tyr Ala Ser Thr Thr Asp Leu Asp Phe Phe Val
 515 520 525

Ile Arg Gly Asn Thr Thr Val Asn Asn Phe Arg Phe Gly Asn Thr Met
 530 535 540

Arg Lys Gly Asp Pro Ile Thr Ser Arg Ser Phe Arg Phe Ala Ala Phe
 545 550 555 560

Ser Thr Pro Phe Thr Phe Ala Ser Ser Gln Asp Glu Leu Arg Ile Asn
 565 570 575

Val Gln Asn Phe Asn Asn Gly Glu Glu Val Tyr Ile Asp Arg Ile Glu
 580 585 590

Val Ile Pro Val
 595

<210> 16

<211> 1547

<212> DNA

<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>

<223> Nucleic acid sequence of the 16S rDNA of IDAS1529.

<400> 16

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agcggakcaa cggtttcctt cgggaaaccr ttagcttagc ggcggacggg tgagtaatac	120
gtaggaacc tgcccttaag accgggataa ctcacggaaa cgtgggctaa taccggatag	180
gcgatttcct cgcattgagg aatcgggaaa ggcggagcaa tctgccactt atggatggac	240
ctacggcgca ttagctagtt ggtggggtaa cggctcacca aggcgacgat gcgtagccga	300

66

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cctgagaggg tgatcgcca cactgggact gagacacggc ccagactcct acgggaggca 360
gcagtaggga atcttccgca atggacgcaa gtctgacgga gcaacgccgc gtgagtgatg 420
aagggttttc gatcgtaaag ctctgttgcc agggaagaac gctatggaga gtaactgttc 480
cataggtgac ggtacctgag aagaaagccc cggctaacta cgtgccagca gccgcggtaa 540
tacgtagggg gcaagcgttg tccggaatta ttgggcgtaa agcgcgcgca ggcggtcatg 600
taagtctggt gtttaaaccg ggggctcaac tccgggtcgc atcggaact gtgtgacttg 660
agtcgagaag aggaaagtgg aattccacgt gtagcggtag aatgcgtaga gatgtggagg 720
aacaccagtg gcgaaggcga ctttctgggc tgtaactgac gctgaggcgc gaaagcgtgg 780
ggagcaaaca ggattagata ccctggtagt ccacgccgta aacgatgaat gctaggtgtt 840
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caaatcatca tgccccttat gacctgggct acacacgtac tacaatggct ggtacaacgg 1260
gaagcgaagc cgcgaggtgg agcgaatcct aaaaagccag tctcagttcg gattgcaggc 1320
tgcaactcgc ctgcatgaag tcggaattgc tagtaatcgc ggatcagcat gccgcggtga 1380
atacgttccc gggctctgta cacaccgccc gtcacaccac gagagtttac aacacccgaa 1440
gtcgggtggg taaccgcaag gagccagccg ccgaagggtg ggtagatgat tggggtgaag 1500
tcgtaacaag gtagccgtat cggaagggtg ggytggatca cctcctt 1547

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<210> 17

<211> 20

<212> PRT

<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>

<223> N-terminal amino acid sequence for the purified toxin from the
broth fraction from IDAS1529.

<400> 17

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Asp Ile Thr Leu Lys Val Ala Ile Tyr Pro Tyr Val Pro Asp Pro Ser
1             5             10            15

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Arg Phe Gln Ala
20

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67

<210> 18
 <211> 379
 <212> PRT
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>
 <223> Amino acid sequence of thiaminase I from *Bacillus thiaminolyticus*.

<400> 18

Ala His Ser Asp Ala Ser Ser Asp Ile Thr Leu Lys Val Ala Ile Tyr
 1 5 10 15

Pro Tyr Val Pro Asp Pro Ala Arg Phe Gln Ala Ala Val Leu Asp Gln
 20 25 30

Trp Gln Arg Gln Glu Pro Gly Val Lys Leu Glu Phe Thr Asp Trp Asp
 35 40 45

Ser Tyr Ser Ala Asp Pro Pro Asp Asp Leu Asp Val Phe Val Leu Asp
 50 55 60

Ser Ile Phe Leu Ser His Phe Val Asp Ala Gly Tyr Leu Leu Pro Phe
 65 70 75 80

Gly Ser Gln Asp Ile Asp Gln Ala Glu Asp Val Leu Pro Phe Ala Leu
 85 90 95

Gln Gly Ala Lys Arg Asn Gly Glu Val Tyr Gly Leu Pro Gln Ile Leu
 100 105 110

Cys Thr Asn Leu Leu Phe Tyr Arg Lys Gly Asp Leu Lys Ile Gly Gln
 115 120 125

Val Asp Asn Ile Tyr Glu Leu Tyr Lys Lys Ile Gly Thr Ser His Ser
 130 135 140

Glu Gln Ile Pro Pro Pro Gln Asn Lys Gly Leu Leu Ile Asn Met Ala
 145 150 155 160

Gly Gly Thr Thr Lys Ala Ser Met Tyr Leu Glu Ala Leu Ile Asp Val
 165 170 175

Thr Gly Gln Tyr Thr Glu Tyr Asp Leu Leu Pro Pro Leu Asp Pro Leu
 180 185 190

68

Asn Asp Lys Val Ile Arg Gly Leu Arg Leu Leu Ile Asn Met Ala Gly
 195 200 205

Glu Lys Pro Ser Gln Tyr Val Pro Glu Asp Gly Asp Ala Tyr Val Arg
 210 215 220

Ala Ser Trp Phe Ala Gln Gly Ser Gly Arg Ala Phe Ile Gly Tyr Ser
 225 230 235 240

Glu Ser Met Met Arg Met Gly Asp Tyr Ala Glu Gln Val Arg Phe Lys
 245 250 255

Pro Ile Ser Ser Ser Ala Gly Gln Asp Ile Pro Leu Phe Tyr Ser Asp
 260 265 270

Val Val Ser Val Asn Ser Lys Thr Ala His Pro Glu Leu Ala Lys Lys
 275 280 285

Leu Ala Asn Val Met Ala Ser Ala Asp Thr Val Glu Gln Ala Leu Arg
 290 295 300

Pro Gln Ala Asp Gly Gln Tyr Pro Gln Tyr Leu Leu Pro Ala Arg His
 305 310 315 320

Gln Val Tyr Glu Ala Leu Met Gln Asp Tyr Pro Ile Tyr Ser Glu Leu
 325 330 335

Ala Gln Ile Val Asn Lys Pro Ser Asn Arg Val Phe Arg Leu Gly Pro
 340 345 350

Glu Val Arg Thr Trp Leu Lys Asp Ala Lys Gln Val Leu Pro Glu Ala
 355 360 365

Leu Gly Leu Thr Asp Val Ser Ser Leu Ala Ser
 370 375

<210> 19

<211> 953

<212> PRT

<213> Paenibacillus strain IDAS 1529

<400> 19

Met Lys Met Ile Pro Trp Thr His His Tyr Leu Leu His Arg Leu Arg
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Gly Glu Met Glu Val Lys Pro Met Asn Thr Thr Ser Ile Tyr Arg Gly
 20 25 30

Thr Pro Thr Ile Ser Val Val Asp Asn Arg Asn Leu Glu Ile Arg Ile
 35 40 45
 Leu Gln Tyr Asn Arg Ile Ala Ala Glu Asp Pro Ala Asp Glu Cys Ile
 50 55 60
 Leu Arg Asn Thr Tyr Thr Pro Leu Ser Tyr Leu Gly Ser Ser Met Asp
 65 70 75 80
 Pro Arg Leu Phe Ser Gln Tyr Gln Asp Asp Arg Gly Thr Pro Pro Asn
 85 90 95
 Ile Arg Thr Met Ala Ser Leu Arg Gly Glu Ala Leu Cys Ser Glu Ser
 100 105 110
 Val Asp Ala Gly Arg Lys Ala Glu Leu Phe Asp Ile Glu Gly Arg Pro
 115 120 125
 Val Trp Leu Ile Asp Ala Asn Gly Thr Glu Thr Thr Leu Glu Tyr Asp
 130 135 140
 Val Leu Gly Arg Pro Thr Ala Val Phe Glu Gln Gln Glu Gly Thr Asp
 145 150 155 160
 Ser Pro Gln Cys Arg Glu Arg Phe Ile Tyr Gly Glu Lys Glu Ala Asp
 165 170 175
 Ala Gln Ala Asn Asn Leu Arg Gly Gln Leu Val Arg His Tyr Asp Thr
 180 185 190
 Ala Gly Arg Ile Gln Thr Asp Ser Ile Ser Leu Ala Gly Leu Pro Leu
 195 200 205
 Arg Gln Ser Arg Gln Leu Leu Lys Asn Trp Asp Glu Pro Gly Asp Trp
 210 215 220
 Ser Met Asp Glu Glu Ser Ala Trp Ala Ser Leu Leu Ala Ala Glu Ala
 225 230 235 240
 Tyr Asp Thr Ser Trp Arg Tyr Asp Ala Gln Asp Arg Val Leu Ala Gln
 245 250 255
 Thr Asp Ala Lys Gly Asn Leu Gln Gln Leu Thr Tyr Asn Asp Ala Gly
 260 265 270

70

Gln Pro Gln Ala Val Ser Leu Lys Leu Gln Gly Gln Ala Glu Gln Arg
 275 280 285

Ile Trp Asn Arg Ile Glu Tyr Asn Ala Ala Gly Gln Val Asp Leu Ala
 290 295 300

Glu Ala Gly Asn Gly Ile Val Thr Glu Tyr Thr Tyr Glu Glu Ser Thr
 305 310 315 320

Gln Arg Leu Ile Arg Lys Lys Asp Ser Arg Gly Leu Ser Ser Gly Glu
 325 330 335

Arg Glu Val Leu Gln Asp Tyr Arg Tyr Glu Tyr Asp Pro Val Gly Asn
 340 345 350

Ile Leu Ser Ile Tyr Asn Glu Ala Glu Pro Val Arg Tyr Phe Arg Asn
 355 360 365

Gln Ala Val Ala Pro Lys Arg Gln Tyr Ala Tyr Asp Ala Leu Tyr Gln
 370 375 380

Leu Val Ser Ser Ser Gly Arg Glu Ser Asp Ala Leu Arg Gln Gln Thr
 385 390 395 400

Ser Leu Pro Pro Leu Ile Thr Pro Ile Pro Leu Asp Asp Ser Gln Tyr
 405 410 415

Val Asn Tyr Ala Glu Lys Tyr Ser Tyr Asp Gln Ala Gly Asn Leu Ile
 420 425 430

Lys Leu Ser His Asn Gly Ala Ser Gln Tyr Thr Thr Asn Val Tyr Val
 435 440 445

Asp Lys Ser Ser Asn Arg Gly Ile Trp Arg Gln Gly Glu Asp Ile Pro
 450 455 460

Asp Ile Ala Ala Ser Phe Asp Arg Ala Gly Asn Gln Gln Ala Leu Phe
 465 470 475 480

Pro Gly Arg Pro Leu Glu Trp Asp Thr Arg Asn Gln Leu Ser Arg Val
 485 490 495

His Met Val Val Arg Glu Gly Gly Asp Asn Asp Trp Glu Gly Tyr Leu
 500 505 510

71

Tyr Asp Ser Ser Gly Met Arg Ile Val Lys Arg Ser Thr Arg Lys Thr
 515 520 525

Gln Thr Thr Thr Gln Thr Asp Thr Thr Leu Tyr Leu Pro Gly Leu Glu
 530 535 540

Leu Arg Ile Arg Gln Thr Gly Asp Arg Val Thr Glu Ala Leu Gln Val
 545 550 555 560

Ile Thr Val Asp Glu Gly Ala Gly Gln Val Arg Val Leu His Trp Glu
 565 570 575

Asp Gly Thr Glu Pro Gly Gly Ile Ala Asn Asp Gln Tyr Arg Tyr Ser
 580 585 590

Leu Asn Asp His Leu Thr Ser Ser Leu Leu Glu Val Asp Gly Gln Gly
 595 600 605

Gln Ile Ile Ser Lys Glu Glu Phe Tyr Pro Tyr Gly Gly Thr Ala Leu
 610 615 620

Trp Thr Ala Arg Ser Glu Val Glu Ala Ser Tyr Lys Thr Ile Arg Tyr
 625 630 635 640

Ser Gly Lys Glu Arg Asp Ala Thr Gly Leu Tyr Tyr Tyr Gly His Arg
 645 650 655

Tyr Tyr Met Pro Trp Leu Gly Arg Trp Leu Asn Pro Asp Pro Ala Gly
 660 665 670

Met Val Asp Gly Leu Asn Leu Tyr Arg Met Val Arg Asn Asn Pro Ile
 675 680 685

Gly Leu Met Asp Pro Asn Gly Asn Ala Pro Ile Asn Val Ala Asp Tyr
 690 695 700

Ser Phe Val His Gly Asp Leu Val Tyr Gly Leu Ser Lys Glu Arg Gly
 705 710 715 720

Arg Tyr Leu Lys Leu Phe Asn Pro Asn Phe Asn Met Glu Lys Ser Asp
 725 730 735

Ser Pro Ala Met Val Ile Asp Gln Tyr Asn Asn Asn Val Ala Leu Ser
 740 745 750

Ile Thr Asn Gln Tyr Lys Val Glu Glu Leu Met Lys Phe Gln Lys Asp

72

755

760

765

Pro Gln Lys Ala Ala Arg Lys Ile Lys Val Pro Glu Gly Asn Arg Leu
 770 775 780

Ser Arg Asn Glu Asn Tyr Pro Leu Trp His Asp Tyr Ile Asn Ile Gly
 785 790 795 800

Glu Ala Lys Ala Ala Phe Lys Ala Ser His Ile Phe Gln Glu Val Lys
 805 810 815

Gly Asn Tyr Gly Lys Asp Tyr Tyr His Lys Leu Leu Leu Asp Arg Met
 820 825 830

Ile Glu Ser Pro Leu Leu Trp Lys Arg Gly Ser Lys Leu Gly Leu Glu
 835 840 845

Ile Ala Ala Thr Asn Gln Arg Thr Lys Ile His Phe Val Leu Asp Asn
 850 855 860

Leu Asn Ile Glu Gln Val Val Thr Lys Glu Gly Ser Gly Gly Gln Ser
 865 870 875 880

Ile Thr Ala Ser Glu Leu Arg Tyr Ile Tyr Arg Asn Arg Glu Arg Leu
 885 890 895

Asn Gly Arg Val Ile Phe Tyr Arg Asn Asn Glu Arg Leu Asp Gln Ala
 900 905 910

Pro Trp Gln Glu Asn Pro Asp Leu Trp Ser Lys Tyr Gln Pro Gly Leu
 915 920 925

Arg Gln Ser Ser Ser Ser Arg Val Lys Glu Arg Gly Ile Gly Asn Phe
 930 935 940

Phe Arg Arg Phe Ser Met Lys Arg Lys
 945 950

<210> 20

<211> 4482

<212> DNA

<213> Xenorhabdus strain Xwi

<400> 20

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73

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gtttccttgc tgcaaacggc ccgcagactg gcccatgaaa cggacggtac gccagtgatg	1140
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accgatttta tttatgcccg caatacttac cttgaactct atgccaatga aagcggcaat	1980

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75

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<211> 3051

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<213> Xenorhabdus strain Xwi

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76

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77

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<220>
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<210> 24
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<220>
 <223> Primer SB103

<400> 24
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<210> 25
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<400> 25
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<210> 26

78

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<223> Primer SB105

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28

<210> 27
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<220>
<223> Primer SB106

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acgrctgggya ttggyaatca gccartccaa

30

<210> 28
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<212> DNA
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<220>
<223> Primer SB212

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27

<210> 29
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<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>
<223> Primer SB213

<220>
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25

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79

<212> DNA
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<220>
 <223> Primer SB215

<220>
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33

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 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>
 <223> Primer SB217

<220>
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32

<210> 32
 <211> 1293
 <212> DNA
 <213> Paenibacillus apairus strain DB482

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80

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<210> 33
<211> 430
<212> PRT
<213> Paenibacillus apairius strain DB482

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<400> 33

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Gln Pro Glu Gly Ser Gly Thr Leu Ala Ser Leu Lys Asp Thr Tyr His
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```

```

Pro Met Thr Leu Pro Tyr Asp Asp Asp Leu Ala Gln Ile Asn Ala Val
20           25           30

```

```

Ala Glu Ala His Ser Ser Asn Leu Leu Gly Ile Trp Asp Thr Leu Leu
35           40           45

```

```

Asp Thr Gln Arg Thr Ser Ile Leu Gln Asn Ser Ala Ala Ala Cys Arg
50           55           60

```

```

Ile Ser Lys Ala Arg Gln Ser Ala Ser Pro Asp Gln Arg Ala Ser Asp
65           70           75           80

```

```

Asp Glu Pro Val Leu Ile Thr Gly Glu Glu Phe Tyr Leu Glu Thr Gly
85           90           95

```

```

Gly Lys Arg Leu Phe Leu Ala His Lys Leu Glu Ile Gly Ser Thr Ile
100          105          110

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```

Ser Ala Lys Ile Asn Ile Gly Pro Pro Gln Ala Ala Asp Ile Ala Pro
115          120          125

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Ala Lys Leu Gln Leu Val Tyr Tyr Gly Arg Gly Gly Arg Gly Asp Tyr
 130 135 140

Phe Leu Arg Val Ala Asp Asp Val Ser Leu Gly Gly Lys Leu Leu Asn
 145 150 155 160

Asn Cys Tyr Leu Thr Ser Asp Asp Gly Gln Ser Asn Asn Ile Asn Gly
 165 170 175

Pro Phe Cys Leu Met Ile Asn Arg Gly Thr Gly Ser Met Pro Ser Gly
 180 185 190

Thr His Leu Pro Val Gln Ile Asp Arg Val Thr Asp Thr Ser Leu Arg
 195 200 205

Ile Phe Val Pro Gln His Gly Tyr Leu Gly Leu Gly Glu Ser Leu Ala
 210 215 220

Ser Asn Trp Asn Glu Pro Leu Ala Leu Asn Leu Asp Leu Asp Gln Ala
 225 230 235 240

Leu Thr Phe Thr Leu Arg Lys Asn Glu Ser Gly Gln Asp Thr Ile Ser
 245 250 255

Ile Ile Asp Met Met Pro Pro Val Ala Asp Thr Thr Pro Ser Pro Pro
 260 265 270

Thr Arg Glu Thr Leu Ser Leu Thr Pro Asn Ser Phe Arg Leu Leu Val
 275 280 285

Asn Pro Glu Pro Thr Glu Glu Asp Ile Ala Lys His Tyr Asn Val Lys
 290 295 300

Thr Ala Ile Thr Arg Ala Pro Ala Asp Leu Ala Ala Ala Leu Asn Val
 305 310 315 320

Val Asp Asp Phe Cys Met Lys Thr Gly Leu Ser Phe Asp Glu Leu Leu
 325 330 335

Asn Leu Thr Met Gln Lys Asp Tyr Gln Ser Lys Ser Ser Glu Tyr Lys
 340 345 350

Ser Arg Phe Val Lys Phe Gly Gly Gly Glu His Val Pro Val Ser Thr
 355 360 365

82

Tyr Gly Ala Val Phe Leu Thr Gly Thr Glu Glu Thr Pro Leu Trp Ala
 370 375 380

Lys Gln Tyr Asn Ser Ala Gly Ala Ala Thr Asp Thr Pro Val Leu Asn
 385 390 395 400

Phe Thr Ala Asp Asn Val Ala Ala Leu Ala Gly Arg Ala Glu Lys Leu
 405 410 415

Val Arg Leu Ala Arg Ser Thr Gly Leu Ser Phe Glu Gln Leu
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<210> 34
 <211> 340
 <212> DNA
 <213> Paenibacillus apairius strain DB482

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<210> 35
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 <212> DNA
 <213> Paenibacillus apairius strain DB482

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83

<210> 36
 <211> 113
 <212> PRT
 <213> Paenibacillus apairius strain DB482

<400> 36

Ile Phe Ile His Thr Leu Asp Phe Leu Ile Asn Arg Gly Asp Ser Leu
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Tyr Arg Leu Leu Glu Arg Asp Thr Leu Thr Glu Ala Lys Met Tyr Tyr
 20 25 30

Ile Gln Ala Ser Gln Leu Leu Gly Pro Arg Pro Asp Ile Arg Ile Asn
 35 40 45

His Ser Trp Pro Asn Pro Thr Leu Gln Ser Glu Ala Asp Ala Val Thr
 50 55 60

Ala Val Pro Thr Arg Ser Asp Ser Arg Ala Thr Pro Ile Leu Ala Leu
 65 70 75 80

Arg Ala Leu Leu Lys Ala Glu Asn Gly His Phe Leu Pro Pro Tyr Asn
 85 90 95

Asp Glu Leu Leu Ala Phe Trp Asp Lys Ile Asp Leu Arg Leu Tyr Asn
 100 105 110

Leu

<210> 37
 <211> 188
 <212> PRT
 <213> Paenibacillus apairius strain DB482

<400> 37

Ser Leu Tyr Tyr Gln Met Tyr Asp Ala Ala Leu Pro Leu Cys Leu Met
 1 5 10 15

Ala Lys Gln Ala Leu Glu Lys Glu Ile Gly Thr Asp Lys Thr Gly Gly
 20 25 30

Val Phe Thr Leu Pro Ala Trp Asn Asp Leu Tyr Gln Gly Leu Leu Ala
 35 40 45

Gly Glu Ala Leu Leu Leu Glu Leu Gln Lys Leu Glu Asn Leu Trp Leu

[illegible]

85

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<210> 39

<211> 697

<212> PRT

<213> Paenibacillus apairius strain DB482

<400> 39

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86

Val Ser Asp Ile His Thr Val Asp Glu Ile Ser Gly Ser Ala Arg Ile
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 35 40 45

Phe Ala Gly Phe Gly His Ile Asp Thr Trp Glu Glu Glu Arg Asp Ser
 50 55 60

Glu Gly Thr Leu Ser Ile Ser Thr Pro Pro Val Leu Thr Arg Thr Trp
 65 70 75 80

Tyr His Thr Gly Gln Lys Gln Asp Glu Glu Arg Ala Val Gln Gln Tyr
 85 90 95

Trp Gln Gly Asp Pro Ala Ala Phe Gln Val Lys Pro Val Arg Leu Thr
 100 105 110

Arg Phe Asp Ala Ala Thr Ala Gln Asp Val Pro Leu Asp Ser Pro Asn
 115 120 125

Arg Arg Glu Glu Tyr Trp Leu Tyr Arg Ser Leu Arg Gly Met Pro Leu
 130 135 140

Arg Asn Glu Ile Phe Ala Gly Asp Val Val Gly Leu Pro Pro Tyr Gln
 145 150 155 160

Val Glu Ser Leu Arg Tyr Gln Val Arg Leu Met Gln Ser Thr Asp Ser
 165 170 175

Glu Cys Val Thr Leu Pro Met Gln Leu Glu Gln Leu Thr Tyr Asn Tyr
 180 185 190

Glu Gln Ile Ala Ser Asp Pro Gln Cys Ser Gln Gln Ile Gln Gln Trp
 195 200 205

Phe Asp Glu Tyr Gly Val Ala Ala Gln Ser Ile Thr Ile Gln Tyr Pro
 210 215 220

Arg Arg Ala Gln Pro Glu Asp Asn Pro Tyr Pro His Thr Leu Pro Asp
 225 230 235 240

Thr Ser Trp Ser Ser Ser Tyr Asp Ser Gln Gln Met Leu Leu Arg Leu
 245 250 255

87

Thr Arg Gln Arg Gln Lys Ala Tyr His Leu Ala Asp Pro Glu Gly Trp
260 265 270

Arg Leu Asn Ile Pro His Gln Thr Arg Leu Asp Ser Phe Ile Tyr Ser
275 280 285

Ala Asp Ser Val Pro Ala Glu Gly Ile Ser Ala Glu Leu Leu Gly Gly
290 295 300

Asp Gly Thr Leu Arg Ser Pro Ala Leu Glu Gln Ala Tyr Gly Gly Gln
305 310 315 320

Ser Glu Ile Ile Tyr Ala Gly Gly Gly Glu Pro Asp Ser Arg Ala Leu
325 330 335

Val His Tyr Thr Arg Ser Ala Ile Leu Asp Glu Ala Cys Leu Gln Ala
340 345 350

Tyr Glu Gly Val Leu Ser Asp Ser Gln Leu Asn Ser Leu Leu Ala Ser
355 360 365

Ser Gly Tyr Gln Arg Ser Ala Arg Ile Leu Gly Ser Gly Asp Glu Ala
370 375 380

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385 390 395 400

Asn Phe Phe Arg Ile Leu Gly Gln Gln Ser Ser Leu Leu Thr Gly Glu
405 410 415

Gln Val Leu Thr Trp Asp Asp Asn Phe Cys Ala Val Thr Ser Ile Glu
420 425 430

Asp Ala Leu Gly Asn Gln Ile Gln Ile Ala Tyr Asp Tyr Arg Phe Val
435 440 445

Glu Ala Ile Gln Ile Thr Asp Ala Asn Asn Asn Val Asn Gln Val Ser
450 455 460

Leu Asp Ala Leu Gly Arg Val Val Tyr Ser Arg Thr Trp Gly Thr Glu
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Glu Gly Ile Glu Thr Gly Phe Arg Pro Glu Ala Glu Phe Ser Pro Pro
485 490 495

Glu Thr Met Glu Gln Ala Leu Ala Leu Ala Ser Pro Leu Pro Val Ala

88

500

505

510

Ser Cys Cys Val Tyr Asp Ala His Ser Trp Met Gly Thr Ile Thr Leu
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Gly Gln Leu Ser Ala Leu Val Pro Asp Ser Glu Lys Gln Trp Ser Phe
 530 535 540

Leu Ile Ala Asn Arg Leu Ile Met Pro Asp Gly Arg Ile Arg Ala Arg
 545 550 555 560

Gly Arg Ala Pro Trp Trp Leu Gln Arg Leu Leu Pro Pro Ala Val Ala
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Lys Leu Leu Ser Glu Ala Asp Arg Lys Pro Pro His Thr Val Val Leu
 580 585 590

Ala Ala Asp Arg Tyr Pro Asp Asp Pro Ser Gln Gln Ile Gln Ala Ser
 595 600 605

Val Val Phe Ser Asp Gly Phe Gly Arg Thr Ile Gln Thr Ala Lys Arg
 610 615 620

Ala Asp Thr Arg Trp Ala Ile Thr Glu Arg Ile Asp Tyr Asp Glu Thr
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Gly Ala Val Ile Arg Ser Phe Gln Pro Phe Tyr Ile Asp Asp Trp Asn
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Tyr Val Gly Lys Glu Ala Val Ser Gly Ser Met Tyr Ala Thr Ile Tyr
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Tyr Glu Arg Arg Thr Ala Phe Tyr Pro
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<211> 858

<212> DNA

<213> Paenibacillus apairius strain DB482

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89

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Leu Val Ser Ser Ser Gly Arg Glu Ser Asp Ala Leu Arg Gln Gln Thr
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Ser Leu Pro Pro Leu Ile Thr Pro Ile Pro Leu Asp Asp Ser Gln Tyr
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Lys Leu Ser His His Gly Ala Ser Gln Tyr Thr Thr Asn Val His Val
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Asp Lys Ser Ser Asn Arg Gly Ile Trp Arg Gln Gly Glu Asp Ile Pro
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90

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Pro Gly Arg Arg Leu Glu Trp Asp Thr Arg Asn Gln Leu Cys Arg Val
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His Met Val Val Arg Glu Gly Gly Asp Asn Asp Trp Glu Gly Tyr Leu
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Tyr Asp Ser Ser Gly Met Arg Ile Val Lys His Ser Thr Arg Lys Thr
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Gln Thr Thr Thr Gln Thr Asp Thr Thr Ile Tyr Leu Pro Gly Leu Glu
 180 185 190

Leu Arg Ile Arg Gln Thr Gly Asp Arg Val Thr Glu Ala Leu Gln Val
 195 200 205

Ile Thr Val Asp Glu Gly Ala Gly Gln Val Arg Val Leu His Trp Glu
 210 215 220

Asp Gly Thr Glu Pro Gly Gly Ile Ala Asn Asp Gln Tyr Arg Tyr Ser
 225 230 235 240

Leu Asn Asp His Leu Gly Ser Ser Leu Leu Glu Val Asp Gly Gln Ser
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91

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93

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94

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95

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97

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<212> DNA

<213> Photorhabdus strain W14

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98

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 <211> 2883
 <212> DNA
 <213> Photorhabdus strain W14

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100

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 <213> Photorhabdus strain W14

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102

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<211> 2817

<212> DNA

<213> Photorhabdus strain W14

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103

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104

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<211> 2538

<212> PRT

<213> Xenorhabdus nematophilus

<400> 49

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Leu Arg Lys Ile Phe Asp Asp Gln Leu Ser Trp Gly Glu Ala Arg His
 35 40 45

Leu Tyr His Glu Thr Ile Glu Gln Lys Lys Asn Asn Arg Leu Leu Glu
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Ala Arg Ile Phe Thr Arg Ala Asn Pro Gln Leu Ser Gly Ala Ile Arg
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Leu Gly Ile Glu Arg Asp Ser Val Ser Arg Ser Tyr Asp Glu Met Phe
 85 90 95

Gly Ala Arg Ser Ser Ser Phe Val Lys Pro Gly Ser Val Ala Ser Met
 100 105 110

Phe Ser Pro Ala Gly Tyr Leu Thr Glu Leu Tyr Arg Glu Ala Lys Asp
 115 120 125

105

Leu His Phe Ser Ser Ser Ala Tyr His Leu Asp Asn Arg Arg Pro Asp
130 135 140

Leu Ala Asp Leu Thr Leu Ser Gln Ser Asn Met Asp Thr Glu Ile Ser
145 150 155 160

Thr Leu Thr Leu Ser Asn Glu Leu Leu Leu Glu His Ile Thr Arg Lys
165 170 175

Thr Gly Gly Asp Ser Asp Ala Leu Met Glu Ser Leu Ser Thr Tyr Arg
180 185 190

Gln Ala Ile Asp Thr Pro Tyr His Gln Pro Tyr Glu Thr Ile Arg Gln
195 200 205

Val Ile Met Thr His Asp Ser Thr Leu Ser Ala Leu Ser Arg Asn Pro
210 215 220

Glu Val Met Gly Gln Ala Glu Gly Ala Ser Leu Leu Ala Ile Leu Ala
225 230 235 240

Asn Ile Ser Pro Glu Leu Tyr Asn Ile Leu Thr Glu Glu Ile Thr Glu
245 250 255

Lys Asn Ala Asp Ala Leu Phe Ala Gln Asn Phe Ser Glu Asn Ile Thr
260 265 270

Pro Glu Asn Phe Ala Ser Gln Ser Trp Ile Ala Lys Tyr Tyr Gly Leu
275 280 285

Glu Leu Ser Glu Val Gln Lys Tyr Leu Gly Met Leu Gln Asn Gly Tyr
290 295 300

Ser Asp Ser Thr Ser Ala Tyr Val Asp Asn Ile Ser Thr Gly Leu Val
305 310 315 320

Val Asn Asn Glu Ser Lys Leu Glu Ala Tyr Lys Ile Thr Arg Val Lys
325 330 335

Thr Asp Asp Tyr Asp Lys Asn Ile Asn Tyr Phe Asp Leu Met Tyr Glu
340 345 350

Gly Asn Asn Gln Phe Phe Ile Arg Ala Asn Phe Lys Val Ser Arg Glu
355 360 365

Phe Gly Ala Thr Leu Arg Lys Asn Ala Gly Pro Ser Gly Ile Val Gly

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370 375 380
 Ser Leu Ser Gly Pro Leu Ile Ala Asn Thr Asn Phe Lys Ser Asn Tyr
 385 390 395 400
 Leu Ser Asn Ile Ser Asp Ser Glu Tyr Lys Asn Gly Val Lys Ile Tyr
 405 410 415
 Ala Tyr Arg Tyr Thr Ser Ser Thr Ser Ala Thr Asn Gln Gly Gly Gly
 420 425 430
 Ile Phe Thr Phe Glu Ser Tyr Pro Leu Thr Ile Phe Ala Leu Lys Leu
 435 440 445
 Asn Lys Ala Ile Arg Leu Cys Leu Thr Ser Gly Leu Ser Pro Asn Glu
 450 455 460
 Leu Gln Thr Ile Val Arg Ser Asp Asn Ala Gln Gly Ile Ile Asn Asp
 465 470 475 480
 Ser Val Leu Thr Lys Val Phe Tyr Thr Leu Phe Tyr Ser His Arg Tyr
 485 490 495
 Ala Leu Ser Phe Asp Asp Ala Gln Val Leu Asn Gly Ser Val Ile Asn
 500 505 510
 Gln Tyr Ala Asp Asp Asp Ser Val Ser His Phe Asn Arg Leu Phe Asn
 515 520 525
 Thr Pro Pro Leu Lys Gly Lys Ile Phe Glu Ala Asp Gly Asn Thr Val
 530 535 540
 Ser Ile Asp Pro Asp Glu Glu Gln Ser Thr Phe Ala Arg Ser Ala Leu
 545 550 555 560
 Met Arg Gly Leu Gly Val Asn Ser Gly Glu Leu Tyr Gln Leu Gly Lys
 565 570 575
 Leu Ala Gly Val Leu Asp Ala Gln Asn Thr Ile Thr Leu Ser Val Phe
 580 585 590
 Val Ile Ser Ser Leu Tyr Arg Leu Thr Leu Leu Ala Arg Val His Gln
 595 600 605
 Leu Thr Val Asn Glu Leu Cys Met Leu Tyr Gly Leu Ser Pro Phe Asn
 610 615 620

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Gly Lys Thr Thr Ala Ser Leu Ser Ser Gly Glu Leu Pro Arg Leu Val
 625 630 635 640

Ile Trp Leu Tyr Gln Val Thr Gln Trp Leu Thr Glu Ala Glu Ile Thr
 645 650 655

Thr Glu Ala Ile Trp Leu Leu Cys Thr Pro Glu Phe Ser Gly Asn Ile
 660 665 670

Ser Pro Glu Ile Ser Asn Leu Leu Asn Asn Leu Arg Pro Ser Ile Ser
 675 680 685

Glu Asp Met Ala Gln Ser His Asn Arg Glu Leu Gln Ala Glu Ile Leu
 690 695 700

Ala Pro Phe Ile Ala Ala Thr Leu His Leu Ala Ser Pro Asp Met Ala
 705 710 715 720

Arg Tyr Ile Leu Leu Trp Thr Asp Asn Leu Arg Pro Gly Gly Leu Asp
 725 730 735

Ile Ala Gly Phe Met Thr Leu Val Leu Lys Glu Ser Leu Asn Ala Asn
 740 745 750

Glu Thr Thr Gln Leu Val Gln Phe Cys His Val Met Ala Gln Leu Ser
 755 760 765

Leu Ser Val Gln Thr Leu Arg Leu Ser Glu Ala Glu Leu Ser Val Leu
 770 775 780

Val Ile Ser Gly Phe Ala Val Leu Gly Ala Lys Asn Gln Pro Ala Gly
 785 790 795 800

Gln His Asn Ile Asp Thr Leu Phe Ser Leu Tyr Arg Phe His Gln Trp
 805 810 815

Ile Asn Gly Leu Gly Asn Pro Gly Ser Asp Thr Leu Asp Met Leu Arg
 820 825 830

Gln Gln Thr Leu Thr Ala Asp Arg Leu Ala Ser Val Met Gly Leu Asp
 835 840 845

Ile Ser Met Val Thr Gln Ala Met Val Ser Ala Gly Val Asn Gln Leu
 850 855 860

108

Gln Cys Trp Gln Asp Ile Asn Thr Val Leu Gln Trp Ile Asp Val Ala
865 870 875 880

Ser Ala Leu His Thr Met Pro Ser Val Ile Arg Thr Leu Val Asn Ile
885 890 895

Arg Tyr Val Thr Ala Leu Asn Lys Ala Glu Ser Asn Leu Pro Ser Trp
900 905 910

Asp Glu Trp Gln Thr Leu Ala Glu Asn Met Glu Ala Gly Leu Ser Thr
915 920 925

Gln Gln Ala Gln Thr Leu Ala Asp Tyr Thr Ala Glu Arg Leu Ser Ser
930 935 940

Val Leu Cys Asn Trp Phe Leu Ala Asn Ile Gln Pro Glu Gly Val Ser
945 950 955 960

Leu His Ser Arg Asp Asp Leu Tyr Ser Tyr Phe Leu Ile Asp Asn Gln
965 970 975

Val Ser Ser Ala Ile Lys Thr Thr Arg Leu Ala Glu Ala Ile Ala Gly
980 985 990

Ile Gln Leu Tyr Ile Asn Arg Ala Leu Asn Arg Ile Glu Pro Asn Ala
995 1000 1005

Arg Ala Asp Val Ser Thr Arg Gln Phe Phe Thr Asp Trp Thr Val
1010 1015 1020

Asn Asn Arg Tyr Ser Thr Trp Gly Gly Val Ser Arg Leu Val Tyr
1025 1030 1035

Tyr Pro Glu Asn Tyr Ile Asp Pro Thr Gln Arg Ile Gly Gln Thr
1040 1045 1050

Arg Met Met Asp Glu Leu Leu Glu Asn Ile Ser Gln Ser Lys Leu
1055 1060 1065

Ser Arg Asp Thr Val Glu Asp Ala Phe Lys Thr Tyr Leu Thr Arg
1070 1075 1080

Phe Glu Thr Val Ala Asp Leu Lys Val Val Ser Ala Tyr His Asp
1085 1090 1095

109

Asn Val	Asn Ser	Asn Thr	Gly	Leu Thr	Trp Phe	Val	Gly Gln	Thr
1100			1105			1110		
Arg Glu	Asn Leu	Pro Glu	Tyr	Tyr Trp	Arg Asn	Val	Asp Ile	Ser
1115			1120			1125		
Arg Met	Gln Ala	Gly Glu	Leu	Ala Ala	Asn Ala	Trp	Lys Glu	Trp
1130			1135			1140		
Thr Lys	Ile Asp	Thr Ala	Val	Asn Pro	Tyr Lys	Asp	Ala Ile	Arg
1145			1150			1155		
Pro Val	Ile Phe	Arg Glu	Arg	Leu His	Leu Ile	Trp	Val Glu	Lys
1160			1165			1170		
Glu Glu	Val Ala	Lys Asn	Gly	Thr Asp	Pro Val	Glu	Thr Tyr	Asp
1175			1180			1185		
Arg Phe	Thr Leu	Lys Leu	Ala	Phe Leu	Arg His	Asp	Gly Ser	Trp
1190			1195			1200		
Ser Ala	Pro Trp	Ser Tyr	Asp	Ile Thr	Thr Gln	Val	Glu Ala	Val
1205			1210			1215		
Thr Asp	Lys Lys	Pro Asp	Thr	Glu Arg	Leu Ala	Leu	Ala Ala	Ser
1220			1225			1230		
Gly Phe	Gln Gly	Glu Asp	Thr	Leu Leu	Val Phe	Val	Tyr Lys	Thr
1235			1240			1245		
Gly Lys	Ser Tyr	Ser Asp	Phe	Gly Gly	Ser Asn	Lys	Asn Val	Ala
1250			1255			1260		
Gly Met	Thr Ile	Tyr Gly	Asp	Gly Ser	Phe Lys	Lys	Met Glu	Asn
1265			1270			1275		
Thr Ala	Leu Ser	Arg Tyr	Ser	Gln Leu	Lys Asn	Thr	Phe Asp	Ile
1280			1285			1290		
Ile His	Thr Gln	Gly Asn	Asp	Leu Val	Arg Lys	Ala	Ser Tyr	Arg
1295			1300			1305		
Phe Ala	Gln Asp	Phe Glu	Val	Pro Ala	Ser Leu	Asn	Met Gly	Ser
1310			1315			1320		
Ala Ile	Gly Asp	Asp Ser	Leu	Thr Val	Met Glu	Asn	Gly Asn	Ile

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1325		1330		1335
Pro Gln Ile Thr Ser Lys Tyr	Ser Ser Asp Asn Leu	Ala Ile Thr		
1340	1345	1350		
Leu His Asn Ala Ala Phe Thr	Val Arg Tyr Asp Gly	Ser Gly Asn		
1355	1360	1365		
Val Ile Arg Asn Lys Gln Ile	Ser Ala Met Lys Leu	Thr Gly Val		
1370	1375	1380		
Asp Gly Lys Ser Gln Tyr Gly	Asn Ala Phe Ile Ile	Ala Asn Thr		
1385	1390	1395		
Val Lys His Tyr Gly Gly Tyr	Ser Asp Leu Gly Gly	Pro Ile Thr		
1400	1405	1410		
Val Tyr Asn Lys Thr Lys Asn	Tyr Ile Ala Ser Val	Gln Gly His		
1415	1420	1425		
Leu Met Asn Ala Asp Tyr Thr	Arg Arg Leu Ile Leu	Thr Pro Val		
1430	1435	1440		
Glu Asn Asn Tyr Tyr Ala Arg	Leu Phe Glu Phe Pro	Phe Ser Pro		
1445	1450	1455		
Asn Thr Ile Leu Asn Thr Val	Phe Thr Val Gly Ser	Asn Lys Thr		
1460	1465	1470		
Ser Asp Phe Lys Lys Cys Ser	Tyr Ala Val Asp Gly	Asn Asn Ser		
1475	1480	1485		
Gln Gly Phe Gln Ile Phe Ser	Ser Tyr Gln Ser Ser	Gly Trp Leu		
1490	1495	1500		
Asp Ile Asp Thr Gly Ile Asn	Asn Thr Asp Ile Lys	Ile Thr Val		
1505	1510	1515		
Met Ala Gly Ser Lys Thr His	Thr Phe Thr Ala Ser	Asp His Ile		
1520	1525	1530		
Ala Ser Leu Pro Ala Asn Ser	Phe Asp Ala Met Pro	Tyr Thr Phe		
1535	1540	1545		
Lys Pro Leu Glu Ile Asp Ala	Ser Ser Leu Ala Phe	Thr Asn Asn		
1550	1555	1560		

Ile Ala Pro Leu Asp Ile Val Phe Glu Thr Lys Ala Lys Asp Gly
 1565 1570 1575
 Arg Val Leu Gly Lys Ile Lys Gln Thr Leu Ser Val Lys Arg Val
 1580 1585 1590
 Asn Tyr Asn Pro Glu Asp Ile Leu Phe Leu Arg Glu Thr His Ser
 1595 1600 1605
 Gly Ala Gln Tyr Met Gln Leu Gly Val Tyr Arg Ile Arg Leu Asn
 1610 1615 1620
 Thr Leu Leu Ala Ser Gln Leu Val Ser Arg Ala Asn Thr Gly Ile
 1625 1630 1635
 Asp Thr Ile Leu Thr Met Glu Thr Gln Arg Leu Pro Glu Pro Pro
 1640 1645 1650
 Leu Gly Glu Gly Phe Phe Ala Asn Phe Val Leu Pro Lys Tyr Asp
 1655 1660 1665
 Pro Ala Glu His Gly Asp Glu Arg Trp Phe Lys Ile His Ile Gly
 1670 1675 1680
 Asn Val Gly Gly Asn Thr Gly Arg Gln Pro Tyr Tyr Ser Gly Met
 1685 1690 1695
 Leu Ser Asp Thr Ser Glu Thr Ser Met Thr Leu Phe Val Pro Tyr
 1700 1705 1710
 Ala Glu Gly Tyr Tyr Met His Glu Gly Val Arg Leu Gly Val Gly
 1715 1720 1725
 Tyr Gln Lys Ile Thr Tyr Asp Asn Thr Trp Glu Ser Ala Phe Phe
 1730 1735 1740
 Tyr Phe Asp Glu Thr Lys Gln Gln Phe Val Leu Ile Asn Asp Ala
 1745 1750 1755
 Asp His Asp Ser Gly Met Thr Gln Gln Gly Ile Val Lys Asn Ile
 1760 1765 1770
 Lys Lys Tyr Lys Gly Phe Leu Asn Val Ser Ile Ala Thr Gly Tyr
 1775 1780 1785

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Ser Ala	Pro Met	Asp Phe	Asn Ser	Ala Ser	Ala Leu	Tyr Tyr	Trp
1790			1795			1800	
Glu Leu	Phe Tyr	Tyr Thr	Pro Met	Met Cys	Phe Gln	Arg Leu	Leu
1805			1810			1815	
Gln Glu	Lys Gln	Phe Asp	Glu Ala	Thr Gln	Trp Ile	Asn Tyr	Val
1820			1825			1830	
Tyr Asn	Pro Ala	Gly Tyr	Ile Val	Asn Gly	Glu Ile	Ala Pro	Trp
1835			1840			1845	
Ile Trp	Asn Cys	Arg Pro	Leu Glu	Glu Thr	Thr Ser	Trp Asn	Ala
1850			1855			1860	
Asn Pro	Leu Asp	Ala Ile	Asp Pro	Asp Ala	Val Ala	Gln Asn	Asp
1865			1870			1875	
Pro Met	His Tyr	Lys Ile	Ala Thr	Phe Met	Arg Leu	Leu Asp	Gln
1880			1885			1890	
Leu Ile	Leu Arg	Gly Asp	Met Ala	Tyr Arg	Glu Leu	Thr Arg	Asp
1895			1900			1905	
Ala Leu	Asn Glu	Ala Lys	Met Trp	Tyr Val	Arg Thr	Leu Glu	Leu
1910			1915			1920	
Leu Gly	Asp Glu	Pro Glu	Asp Tyr	Gly Ser	Gln Gln	Trp Ala	Ala
1925			1930			1935	
Pro Ser	Leu Ser	Gly Ala	Ala Ser	Gln Thr	Val Gln	Ala Ala	Tyr
1940			1945			1950	
Gln Gln	Asp Leu	Thr Met	Leu Gly	Arg Gly	Gly Val	Ser Lys	Asn
1955			1960			1965	
Leu Arg	Thr Ala	Asn Ser	Leu Val	Gly Leu	Phe Leu	Pro Glu	Tyr
1970			1975			1980	
Asn Pro	Ala Leu	Thr Asp	Tyr Trp	Gln Thr	Leu Arg	Leu Arg	Leu
1985			1990			1995	
Phe Asn	Leu Arg	His Asn	Leu Ser	Ile Asp	Gly Gln	Pro Leu	Ser
2000			2005			2010	

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Leu Ala Ile Tyr Ala Glu Pro Thr Asp Pro Lys Ala Leu Leu Thr
 2015 2020 2025

Ser Met Val Gln Ala Ser Gln Gly Gly Ser Ala Val Leu Pro Gly
 2030 2035 2040

Thr Leu Ser Leu Tyr Arg Phe Pro Val Met Leu Glu Arg Thr Arg
 2045 2050 2055

Asn Leu Val Ala Gln Leu Thr Gln Phe Gly Thr Ser Leu Leu Ser
 2060 2065 2070

Met Ala Glu His Asp Asp Ala Asp Glu Leu Thr Thr Leu Leu Leu
 2075 2080 2085

Gln Gln Gly Met Glu Leu Ala Thr Gln Ser Ile Arg Ile Gln Gln
 2090 2095 2100

Arg Thr Val Asp Glu Val Asp Ala Asp Ile Ala Val Leu Ala Glu
 2105 2110 2115

Ser Arg Arg Ser Ala Gln Asn Arg Leu Glu Lys Tyr Gln Gln Leu
 2120 2125 2130

Tyr Asp Glu Asp Ile Asn His Gly Glu Gln Arg Ala Met Ser Leu
 2135 2140 2145

Leu Asp Ala Ala Ala Gly Gln Ser Leu Ala Gly Gln Val Leu Ser
 2150 2155 2160

Ile Ala Glu Gly Val Ala Asp Leu Val Pro Asn Val Phe Gly Leu
 2165 2170 2175

Ala Cys Gly Gly Ser Arg Trp Gly Ala Ala Leu Arg Ala Ser Ala
 2180 2185 2190

Ser Val Met Ser Leu Ser Ala Thr Ala Ser Gln Tyr Ser Ala Asp
 2195 2200 2205

Lys Ile Ser Arg Ser Glu Ala Tyr Arg Arg Arg Arg Gln Glu Trp
 2210 2215 2220

Glu Ile Gln Arg Asp Asn Ala Asp Gly Glu Val Lys Gln Met Asp
 2225 2230 2235

Ala Gln Leu Glu Ser Leu Lys Ile Arg Arg Glu Ala Ala Gln Met

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2240		2245		2250
Gln Val	Glu Tyr	Gln Glu Thr	Gln Gln Ala His	Thr Gln Ala Gln
2255		2260		2265
Leu Glu	Leu Leu Gln Arg	Lys Phe Thr Asn	Lys Ala	Leu Tyr Ser
2270		2275		2280
Trp Met	Arg Gly Lys Leu Ser	Ala Ile Tyr Tyr	Gln Phe Phe Asp	
2285		2290		2295
Leu Thr	Gln Ser Phe Cys Leu	Met Ala Gln Glu	Ala Leu Arg Arg	
2300		2305		2310
Glu Leu	Thr Asp Asn Gly Val	Thr Phe Ile Arg	Gly Gly Ala Trp	
2315		2320		2325
Asn Gly	Thr Thr Ala Gly Leu	Met Ala Gly Glu Thr	Leu Leu Leu	
2330		2335		2340
Asn Leu	Ala Glu Met Glu Lys	Val Trp Leu Glu Arg	Asp Glu Arg	
2345		2350		2355
Ala Leu	Glu Val Thr Arg Thr	Val Ser Leu Ala Gln	Phe Tyr Gln	
2360		2365		2370
Ala Leu	Ser Ser Asp Asn Phe	Asn Leu Thr Glu Lys	Leu Thr Gln	
2375		2380		2385
Phe Leu	Arg Glu Gly Lys Gly	Asn Val Gly Ala Ser	Gly Asn Glu	
2390		2395		2400
Leu Lys	Leu Ser Asn Arg Gln	Ile Glu Ala Ser Val	Arg Leu Ser	
2405		2410		2415
Asp Leu	Lys Ile Phe Ser Asp	Tyr Pro Glu Ser Leu	Gly Asn Thr	
2420		2425		2430
Arg Gln	Leu Lys Gln Val Ser	Val Thr Leu Pro Ala	Leu Val Gly	
2435		2440		2445
Pro Tyr	Glu Asp Ile Arg Ala	Val Leu Asn Tyr Gly	Gly Ser Ile	
2450		2455		2460
Val Met	Pro Arg Gly Cys Ser	Ala Ile Ala Leu Ser	His Gly Val	
2465		2470		2475

Asn Asp Ser Gly Gln Phe Met Leu Asp Phe Asn Asp Ser Arg Tyr
2480 2485 2490

Leu Pro Phe Glu Gly Ile Ser Val Asn Asp Ser Gly Ser Leu Thr
2495 2500 2505

Leu Ser Phe Pro Asp Ala Thr Asp Arg Gln Lys Ala Leu Leu Glu
2510 2515 2520

Ser Leu Ser Asp Ile Ile Leu His Ile Arg Tyr Thr Ile Arg Ser
2525 2530 2535